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THE TRUTH ABOUT GERMANY

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LISTEN, ALL YE PEOPLE!

TRY to realise, every one of you, what we are going through! Only a few weeks ago, all of us were peacefully following our several vocations. The peasant was gathering in this summer's plentiful crop, the factory hand was working with accustomed vigour. Not one human being amongst us dreamt of war. We are a nation that wishes to lead a quiet and industrious life. This need hardly be stated to you Americans. You, of all others, know the temper of the German who lives within your gates. Our love of peace is so strong that it is not regarded by us in the light of a virtue, we simply know it to be an inborn and integral portion of ourselves. Since the foundation of the German Empire in the year 1871, we, living in the centre of Europe, have given an example of tranquillity and peace, never once seeking to profit by any momentary difficulties of our neighbours. Our commercial extension, our financial rise in the world, is far removed from any love of adventure, it is the fruit of painstaking and plodding labour.

We are not credited with this temper, because we are insufficiently known. Our situation and our way of thinking is not easily grasped.

Every one is aware that we have produced great philosophers and poets, we have preached the gospel of humanity with impassioned zeal. America fully appreciates

Goethe and Kant, looks upon them as corner-stones of elevated culture. Do you really believe that we have changed our natures, that our souls can be satisfied with military drill and servile obedience? We are soldiers, because we have to be soldiers, because otherwise Germany and German civilisation would be swept away from the face of the earth. It has cost us long and weary struggles to attain our independence, and we know full well, that in order to preserve it, we must not content ourselves with building schools and factories, we must look to our garrisons and forts. We and all our soldiers have re mained, however, the same lovers of music, and lovers of exalted thought. We have retained our old devotion to all peaceable sciences and arts; as all the world knows, we work in the foremost rank of all those who strive to advance the exchange of commodities, who further useful, technical knowledge. But we have been forced to become a nation of soldiers, in order to be free. And we are bound to follow our Kaiser, because he symbolises and represents the unity of our nation. To-day, knowing no distinction of party, no difference of opinion, we rally around him, willing to shed the last drop of our blood. For though it takes a great deal to rouse us Germans, when once aroused, our feelings run deep and strong. Every one is filled with this passion, with the soldier's ardour. But when the waters of the deluge shall have subsided, gladly will we return to the plough, and to the anvil.

It deeply distresses us to see two highly civilised nations, England and France, joining the onslaught of autocratic Russia. That this could happen, will remain one of the anomalies of history. It is not our fault: we firmly believed in the desirability of the great nations working together, we peacably came to terms with France and England in sundry difficult African questions. There was no cause for war between Western Europe and us, no reason, why Western Europe should feel itself constrained to further the power of the Czar.

The Czar, as an individual, is most certainly not the instigator of the unspeakable horrors that are now inundating Europe. But he bears before God and Posterity the responsibility of having allowed himself to be terrorised by an unscrupulous military clique.

Ever since the weight of the crown has pressed upon him, he has been the tool of others. He did not desire the brutalities in Finland, he did not approve of the iniquities of the Jewish Pogroms, but his hand was too weak to stop the fury of the reactionary party. Why would he not permit Austria to pacify her southern frontier? It was inconceivable that Austria should calmly see her heir apparent murdered. How could she? All the nationalities under her rule realised the impossibility of tamely allowing Servia's only too evident and successful intrigues to be carried on under her very eyes. The Austrians could not allow their venerable and sorely stricken monarch to be wounded and insulted any longer. This rea-

sonable and honourable sentiment on the part of Austria has caused Russia to put itself forward as the patron of Servia, as the enemy of European thought and civilisation.

Russia has an important mission to fulfil in its own country, and in Asia. It would do better in its own interest to leave the rest of the world in peace. But the die is cast, and all nations must decide whether they wish to further us by sentiments and by deeds, or the government of the Czar. This is the real significance of this appalling struggle, all the rest is immaterial. Russia's attitude alone has forced us to go to war with France, and with their great ally.

The German nation is serious and conscientious. Never would a German government dare to contemplate a war for the sake of dynastic interest, or for the sake of glory. This would be against the entire bent of our character Firmly believing in the justice of our cause, all parties, the conservatives and the clericals, the liberals and the socialists, have joined hands. All disputes are forgotten, one duty exists for all, the duty of defending our country and vanquishing the enemy.

Will not this calm self-reliant and unanimous readiness to sacrifice all, to die or to win, appeal to other nations and force them to understand our real character and the situation in which we are placed?

The war has severed us from the rest of the world, all our cable communications are destroyed. But the winds will carry the mighty voice of justice even across

the oceans. We trust in God, we have confidence in the judgement of right-minded men. And through the roar of battle, we call to you all. Do not believe the mischievous lies that our enemies are spreading about! We do not know if victory will be ours, the Lord alone knows. We have not chosen our path, we must continue doing our duty, even to the very end. We bear the misery of war, the death of our sons, believing in Germany, believing in duty.

And we know that Germany cannot be wiped from the face of the earth.

HOW THE WAR CAME ABOUT.

Who is responsible for the war?—Not Germany! England's Policy! Her shifting of responsibility and promoting the struggle while alone possessing power to avert it!

IT is an old and common experience that after the outbreak of a war the very parties and persons that wanted the war, either at once or later assert, that the enemy wanted and began it. The German empire especially always had to suffer from such untruthful assertions, and the very first days of the present terrible European war confirm again this old experience. Again Russian, French and British accounts represent the German empire as having wanted the war.

Only a few months ago influential men and newspapers of Great Britain as well as of Paris could be heard to express the opinion that nobody in Europe wanted war and that especially the German emperor and his government had sincerely and effectively been working for peace. Especially the English government in the course of the last two years asserted frequently and publicly, and was supported by the Westminster Gazette and a number of influential English newspapers in the assertion, that Great Britain and the German empire during the Balkan crisis of the last few years had always met on the same platform for the preservation of peace. The late secretary of state

von Kiderlen-Waechter, his successor, Mr. von Jagow, and the Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg likewise declared repeatedly in the Reichstag, how great their satisfaction was that a close and confidential diplomatic coöperation with Great Britain, especially in questions concerning the near East, had become a fact. And it has to be acknowledged to-day that at that time the German and British interests in the near East were identical or at any rate ran in parallel lines.

The collapse of European Turkey in the war against the Balkan alliance created an entirely new situation. At first Bulgaria was victorious and great, then it was beaten and humiliated by the others with the intellectual help of Russia. There could be no doubt about Russia's intentions: she was preparing for the total subjection of weakened Turkey and for taking possession of the Dardanelles and Constantinople in order to rule from this powerful position Turkey and the other Balkan states. Great Britain and the German empire which only had economic interests in Turkey, were bound to wish to strengthen Turkey besides trying to prevent the Moscovite rule on the whole Balkan peninsula.

Servia had come out of the second Balkan war greatly strengthened and with her territory very much increased. Russia had done everything to strengthen this bitter enemy of our ally Austria-Hungary. For a great number of years Servian politicians and conspirators had planned to undermine the south-eastern provinces of Austria-

Hungary and to separate them from the dual monarchy. In Servia as well as in Russia prevailed the opinion that, at the first attack, Austria-Hungary would fall to pieces. In this case Servia was to receive South Austria and Russia was to dictate the peace in Vienna. The Balkan war had ruined Turkey almost entirely, had paralized Bulgaria, that was friendly, and had strengthened the Balkan states that were hostile to Austria. At the same time there began in Roumania a Russian and French propaganda, that promised this country, if it should join the dual alliance, the Hungarian province of Siebenbuergen.

Thus it became evident in Germany and in Austria that at St. Petersburg first by diplomatic and political, then also by military action a comprehensive attack of Slavism under Russian guidance was being prepared. The party of the grand-dukes in St. Petersburg, the party of the Russian officers, always ready for war and the Panslavists, the brutal and unscrupulous representatives of the idea, that the Russian czarism was destined to rule Europe,—all these declared openly that their aim was the destruction of Austria-Hungary. In Russia the army, already of an immense size, was increased secretly but comprehensively and as quick as possible, in Servia the same was done, and the Russian ambassador in Belgrad, Mr. v. Hartwig, was, after the second Balkan war, the principal promotor of the plan to form against Austria a new Balkan alliance. In Bosnia during all this time,

the servian propaganda was at work with high treason, and in the end with the revolver and the bomb.

In Vienna and in Berlin, the greatness and the purpose of the new danger could not remain doubtful, especially as it was openly said in St. Petersburg, in Belgrad and elsewhere that the destruction of Austria-Hungary was imminent. As soon as the Balkan troubles began, Austria-Hungary had been obliged to put a large part of her army in readiness for war, because the Russians and Servians had mobilised on their frontiers. The Germans felt that what was a danger for their ally was also a danger for them and that they must do all in their power to maintain Austria-Hungary in the position of a great power. They felt that this could only be done by keeping their ally perfect faith and by great military strength, so that Russia might possibly be deterred from war and peace be preserved, or else, that in case war was forced upon them, they could wage it with honor and success. Now it was clear in Berlin that in view of the Russian and Servian preparations Austria-Hungary in case of a war would be obliged to use a great part of her forces against Servia and therefore would have to send against Russia fewer troops than would have been possible under the conditions formerly prevailing in Europe. Formerly even European Turkey could have been counted upon for assistance, that after her recent defeat seemed very doubtful. These reasons and considerations which were solely of a *defensive* nature led to the great German mili-

tary bills of the last two years. Also Austria-Hungary was obliged to increase its defensive strength.

Whoever considers carefully the course of events that has been briefly sketched here, will pronounce the assertion of our enemies that Germany wanted the war, ridiculous and absurd. On the contrary, it can be said that Germany never before endeavoured more eagerly to preserve peace than during the last few years. Germany had plenty of opportunities to attack and good opportunities to boot, for we knew for years that the army of France was no more ready than that of Russia. But the Germans are not a warlike nation and the German emperor, with his government, has always shown how earnestly he meant his re-iterated assertions, that the preservation of peace was his principal aim. He was actuated in this by general considerations of humanity, justice and culture as well as by the consideration of the German trade and commerce. This, especially the trans-oceanic commerce of Germany, has increased from year to year. War, however, means the ruin of commerce. Why expose Germany needlessly to this terrible risk, especially as everything in Germany prospered and her wealth increased? No, the German army-bills were merely meant to protect us against, and prepare us for, the attacks of Moscovite barbarism. But nobody in Germany has ever doubted for a moment that France would attack us at the first Russian signal. Since the first days of the Franco-Russian alliance things have become entirely reversed: *Then* France wanted to win

Russia for a war of revenge against Germany; *now* on the contrary France thought herself obliged to place her power and her existence at the disposal of the Russian lust of conquest.

In the spring of 1914 the German press reported from St. Petersburg detailed accounts of Russia's comprehensive preparations for war. They were not denied in Russia, and Paris declared that Russia would be ready in two or three years and then pursue a policy corresponding to her power; France too would then be at the height of her power. If the German government had desired war, on the strength of these accounts *which were true*, it could have waged a preventive war at once and easily. It did not do so, considering that a war is just only when it is forced upon one by the enemy. Thus spring went by with the atmosphere at high tension. From St. Petersburg and Paris over-bearing threats came in increasing numbers to the effect that the power of the dual alliance was now gigantic and that Germany and Austria soon would begin to feel it. We remained quiet and watchful, endeavoring with perseverance and with all our might to win over Great Britain to the policy of preserving peace. Colonial and economic questions were being discussed by the German and English governments, and the cordiality between the two great powers seemed only to be equalled by their mutual confidence.

Then on the 28th of June occurred that frightful assassination by Servians of the successor to the Austro-Hun-

garian throne, Archduke Francis Ferdinand. The Greater-Servia propaganda of action had put aside the man who was especially hated in Servia as the powerful exponent of Austro-Hungarian unity and strength. This murder is the real cause of the present European war. Austria-Hungary was able to prove to a shuddering world a few days after the murder, that it had been prepared and planned systematically, yea that the Servian government had been cognizant of the plan. The immense extent of the Servian revolutionary organization in the provinces of southern Austria, the warlike spirit of the Servians and its instigation by Russia and France imposed upon the Vienna government the duty to insist upon quiet and peace within and without its borders. It addressed to the Servian government a number of demands which aimed at nothing but the suppression of the anti-Austrian propaganda. Servia was on the point of accepting the demand, when there arrived a dispatch from St. Petersburg and Servia mobilised. Then Austria too had to act. Thus arose the Austro-Servian war. But a few days later, the Russian army was being mobilised, and the mobilisation was begun also in France. At the same time, as the German White-book clearly proves, the diplomacy of Russia and France asserted its great love of peace and tried to prolong the negotiations in order to gain time, for, as is well known, the Russian mobilisation proceeds slowly. Germany was waiting, and again and again the German Emperor tried to win the Czar over to the preservation of

peace, for he considered him sincere and thought him his personal friend. Emperor William was to be cruelly disappointed. He finally saw himself obliged to proclaim the state of war for Germany. But at that time the Russian and French armies were already in a state of complete mobilisation. At that time the London "Daily Graphic" wrote the following article which shows how an English paper that was only slightly friendly to Germany, judged of the situation at that time:

The Mobilisation Mystery.

A general mobilisation has been ordered in Russia, and Germany has responded by proclaiming martial law throughout the Empire. We are now enabled to measure exactly the narrow and slippery ledge which still stands between Europe and the abyss of Armageddon. Will the Russian order be acted upon in the provinces adjoining the German frontier? If it is, then the work of the peacemakers it at an end, for Germany is bound to reply with a mobilisation of her own armed forces, and a rush to the frontiers on all sides must ensue. We confess that we are unable to understand the action of Russia in view of the resumption of the negotiations with Austria. It is not likely that these negotiations have been resumed unless both sides think that there is yet a chance of agreement, but if this is the case, why the mobilisation which goes far beyond the limits of necessary precaution, and is, indeed, calculated to defeat the efforts of the diplomatists, however promising they may be? There may, of course, be a satisfactory explanation, but as the matter stands it is inexplicable, and is all the more regrettable because it is calculated—we feel sure unjustly—to cast doubts on the loyalty and straightforwardness of the Russian Government.

When Russia had let pass the time-limit set by Germany, when France had answered that she would act

according to her own interests, then the German Empire had to mobilise its army and go ahead. Before one German soldier had crossed the German frontier, a large number of French aeroplanes came flying into our country across the neutral territory of Belgium and Luxemburg without a word of warning on the part of the Belgian government. At the same time the German government learned that the French were about to enter Belgium. Then our government with great reluctance had to decide upon requesting the Belgian government to allow our troops to march through its territory. Belgium was to be indemnified after the war, was to retain its sovereignty and integrity. Belgium protested at the same time allowing, by an agreement with France, that the French troops might enter Belgium. After all this and not till France and Belgium itself had broken the neutrality, our troops entered the neutral territory. Germany wanted nothing from Belgium, but had to prevent that Belgian soil be used as a gate of entrance into German territory.

Little has as yet been said of Great Britain. It was Germany's conviction that the sincerity of Britain's love for peace could be trusted. At any rate Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Asquith asserted again and again in the course of the last few years that England wished friendly relations with Germany and never would lend its support to a Franco-Russian attack on Germany. Now this attack had been made; Germany was on the defensive against two powerful enemies. What would Great Britain do

about it? That was the question. Great Britain asked in return for its neutrality that the German forces should not enter Belgium. In other words, it asked, that Germany should allow the French and Belgian troops to form on Belgian territory for a march against our frontier! This we could not allow. It would have been suicidal. The German government made Great Britain in return for its neutrality the following offers: we would not attack the northern coast of France, we would leave unmolested the maritime commerce of France and would indemnify Belgium after the war and safeguard its sovereignty and integrity. *In spite of this Great Britain declared war on Germany and sides to-day with those continental powers that have united for our destruction, in order that Moscovite barbarism may rule Europe.* We know that Germany did not deserve such treatment on the part of Great Britain, and do not believe that Great Britain by this action did a service to humanity and civilization.

To-day we are facing hard facts. Germany has to fight for her existence. She will fight, knowing that the great powers beyond the ocean will do her justice as soon as they know the truth.

REICHSTAG AND EMPEROR.

England, France and Russia, unthreatened by Germany, go to war for political reasons.—Germany defends her independence and fights for her very existence, for her future as a great power.—How a peaceful people were imbued with the spirit of war.

THE last days of the month of July were days of anxiety and distress for the German people. They hoped that they would be permitted to preserve an honorable peace. A few months earlier, in 1913, when the centennial of the war for independence from French oppression and the 25th anniversary of Emperor William's ascent of the throne had been celebrated, they had willingly taken upon their shoulders the great sacrifice of the so-called "Wehrvorlage," which increased the peace strength of the standing army enormously and cost one billion marks. They considered it simply as an increase of their peace insurance premium. Our diplomats worked hard for the maintenance of peace, for the localization of the Austrio-Servian war. So sure were the leading men of the Empire of the preservation of general peace that at the beginning of the week which was to bring general mobilization they said to each other joyfully: Next week our vacation time begins. But they were fearfully disappointed. Russia's unexpected, treacherous mo-

bilization compelled Germany to draw the sword also. On the evening of the first day of August the one word, Mobilisation! was flashed by the electric spark all over the country. There was no more anxiety and uncertainty. Cool, firm resolution at once permeated the entire German people. The Reichstag was called together for an extra session.

Three days later, on the anniversary of the battles of Weissenburg and Spichern, the representatives of the German people met. This session, which lasted only a few hours, proved worthy of the great historical moment marking the beginning of such a conflagration as the world had never seen before. The railroad lines were under military control and used almost exclusively for purposes of mobilization. In spite of all such difficulties, more than 300 of the 397 deputies managed to get to Berlin in time. The rest sent word that they were unable to come. On the evening of August 3rd the Imperial Chancellor called the leaders of all parties, including the Socialists, to his house and explained to them in a concise and impressive statement how frivolously Germany had been driven to war. At the time of this meeting the unanimous acceptance of all war measures by the Reichstag was already assured. In numerous conferences the heads of the several departments explained the content and meaning of the bills to be submitted to the Reichstag. The participants of the conferences showed already what spirit would characterize the next day. The session of the

Reichstag filled the entire German nation with pride and enthusiasm; the Reichstag maintained the dignity of the German Empire and the German people.

In greater numbers than ever before the deputies, high officers of the army and navy and the civil government assembled on August 4th, first in houses of worship to pray to God, and then in the royal castle of Berlin. The military character of the ceremony at the opening of the session showed under what auspices this memorable act took place. The Kaiser entered the hall in the simple gray field uniform, without the usual pomp, unaccompanied by chamberlains and court officials and pages in glittering court dresses. Only state ministers, generals and admirals followed him to the throne, from where he read his speech, after covering his head with his helmet. His voice betrayed the strain under which he was laboring. Repeatedly he was interrupted by enthusiastic applause, and when he closed, a rousing cheer thundered through the famous White Hall, something that had never before occurred there since the erection of the old castle. Then came a surprise. The Emperor laid down the manuscript of his speech and continued speaking. From now on he knew only Germans, he said, no differences of party, creed, religion or social position, and he requested the party leaders to give him their hands as a pledge that they all would stand by him "*in Not und Tod*"—in death and distress. This scene was entirely impromptu, and thus so much more impressive and touching. And it was hardly

over, when the Reichstag—a proceeding unheard of in such surroundings—began to sing the German national hymn: "Heil Dir im Siegerkranz." The magnificent hall, until then only the scene of pompous court festivities, witnessed an outburst of patriotism such as was never seen there before. To the accompaniment of loud cheers the Kaiser walked out, after shaking the hands of the Imperial Chancellor and the chief of the General Staff von Moltke.

One hour later the Reichstag met in its own house. The Emperor had begged for quick and thorough work. He was not to be disappointed. Without any formalities the presiding officers of the last session were reëlected—in times of peace and party strife this would have been impossible. This short curtain raiser being over, the first act of the drama began. Before an overcrowded house the Chancellor described simply and clearly the efforts of the government for the preservation of peace. He stated cold facts showing unmistakably Russia's double dealing and justifying Germany's beginning of a war which she did not want. The Chancellor had begun in a quiet, subdued tone. Then he raised his voice and when, in words that rang through the hall, he declared that the entire nation was united, the deputies and the spectators in the galleries could sit still no longer. They rose, with them at first some socialists, then all of them, carried away by the impulse of the moment; the members of the federal council, of the press, diplomats and the crowds

in the galleries joined them. The whole multitude cheered and clapped its hands frantically. It reflected truly the spirit of the whole nation. The speaker who, under ordinary circumstances, would have supressed the clapping of hands as unparliamentary and the demonstrations of the galleries as undignified, let the patriotic outburst go on to its end.

After a short intermission the business meeting began, Sixteen war measures had been introduced, the most important of which was the one asking for five billion marks to carry on the war. The leader of the social democrats read a statement explaining why his party, despite its opposition on principle to all army and navy appropriations, would vote for the proposed bills. Without further debates all the bills were passed, and shortly after 5 P.M. the Reichstag adjourned. At 7 P.M. the Emperor received the presiding officers of the Reichstag to thank them for their prompt and useful work. He signed the bills, which were immediately published and thus became law.

The resolute attitude and quick work of the Reichstag reflected the unity and resolution of the entire nation. Sixty seven millions of Germans feel, think and act with their elected representatives. No party, no class, no creed is standing back; all are imbued with one single thought: United Germany is unconquerable.

The entire German people *are* united as never before in their history. Even one hundred and one years ago, in 1813, the entire population cannot have been so uni-

formly seized by the spirit of war as at the outbreak of this struggle, which is the people's war in the truest sense of the word, and which was predicted by Bismarck. All reigning princes are going out to fight with the army and have appointed their wives as regents. Instances include the Kaiser's son-in-law, the Duke of Brunswick, who appointed his consort, the only daughter of the Emperor, as regent. The princes call their people to arms, and they themselves all stand ready to sacrifice all they have. This example from above carries the nation with them. The Reichstag knew parties and factions no more, and neither does the nation. The Emperor sounded the word which has become common property from Königsberg to Constance, from Upper Silesia to the Belgian frontier: "I know only Germans!" And yet how terribly is our nation otherwise disrupted by party strife. Ill-advised persons across our frontiers hoped that creed differences would make for disunion, Frenchmen and Russians expected to weaken our empire with the aid of Alsatians and Poles. This hope has been destroyed—we are a united people, as united as was the Reichstag, the Socialists included. The latter have for years voted against all army and navy appropriations, have advocated international peace, and last year voted against the bills increasing the army strength. In many foreign quarters strong hopes were nourished that this party would help them. But those men did not know our German people. Our civilization, our independence as a nation was threatened, and in that moment party

interest or creed existed no more. The true German heart is beating only for the Fatherland, east and west, north and south, Protestants, Catholics and Jews are "a united people of brethren in the hour of danger". When Germany was so threatened by Russia, when the German "Peace Emperor" was shamefully betrayed by the Czar of all the Russians, then there was but one sacred party in existence: The party of Germans.

THE GERMAN MOBILIZATION.

The clock-works of mobilization; perfect order and quiet everywhere. General acceptance by all classes and factions of the necessities of a war not sought by Germany.

THE German mobilization was the greatest movement of people that the world has ever seen. Nearly four million men had to be transported from every part of the empire to her borders. The manner in which the population is distributed made this task extremely difficult. Berlin, Rhenish-Westphalia, Upper Silesia and Saxony especially had to send their contingents in every direction, since the eastern provinces are more thinly settled and had to have a stronger guard for the borders immediately. The result was a hurrying to and fro of thousands and hundreds of thousands of soldiers, besides a flood of civilians who had to reach their homes as soon as possible. Countries where the population is more regularly distributed have an easier task than Germany, with its predominating urban population. The difficulties of the gigantic undertaking were also increased by the necessity for transporting war materials of every sort. In the West are chiefly industrial undertakings, in the East mainly agricultural. Horse-raising is mostly confined to the provinces on the North Sea and the Baltic, but chiefly

to East Prussia, and this province, the farthest away from France, had to send its best horses to the western border, as did also Schleswig-Holstein and Hanover. Coal for our warships had to go in the other direction. From the Rhenish mines it went to the North Sea, from Upper Silesia to the Baltic. Ammunition and heavy projectiles were transported from the central part of the empire to the borders. And everywhere these operations had to be carried on with haste. One can thus say that the German mobilization was the greatest movement of men and materials that the world has ever seen.

And how was it carried on? No one could have wondered if there had been hundreds of unforeseen incidents, if military trains had arrived at their stations with great delays, if there had resulted in many places a wild huggermugger from the tremendous problems on hand. But there was not a trace of this. On the Monday evening of the first week of mobilization a high officer of the General Staff said: "It had to go well to-day, but how about to-morrow, the main day?" Tuesday evening saw no reason for complaint, no delay, no requests for instructions. All had moved with the regularity of clockwork. Regiments that had been ordered to mobilize in the forenoon left in the evening for the field, fully equipped. Not a man was lacking. There were no deserters, no shirkers, no cowards. Instead, there were volunteers whose numbers far exceeded the number that could be used. Every German wanted to do his duty.

The most noteworthy thing was the earnest quietness with which the gigantic gathering proceeded. Not a city, not a village reported unrest or even an untoward incident. The separation was hard for many a soldier. Many a volunteer tore himself away from his dear ones with bleeding heart, but with face beaming with the light of one who looks forward to victory. Following the Kaiser's wish, those who remained behind filled the churches and, kneeling, prayed to God for victory for the just German cause. The folk-war, brought on by the wantonness of the opponents, in itself brought peace and order, safety and discipline. Never, probably, have the police had fewer excesses to deal with than in the days of the mobilization, although great crowds gathered constantly in every city.

The best criterion of the enthusiasm of the people is without doubt the number of volunteers. More than one million of these, a number greater than that of the standing army, presented themselves within a few days. They came from all classes. There were sons of the nobility, university students, farmers, merchants, common laborers. No calling hung back. Every young man sorrowed when he was rejected. No section of the Fatherland was unrepresented, not even the Reichsland Alsace-Lorraine, where, indeed, the number of volunteers was conspicuously great. When the lists in various cities had to be closed, the young men who had not been accepted turned away with tears in their eyes, and telegraphed from reg-

iment to regiment, hoping to find one where there were still vacancies. Where the sons of the wealthy renounced the pleasures of youth and the comforts of their homes to accept the hardships of war in serving the Fatherland, the poor and the poorest appeared in like degree. In families having four or five sons subject to military duty, a youngest son, not yet liable for service, volunteered. The year 1870, truly a proud year in our history, saw nothing like this.

A thing that raised the national enthusiasm still higher was the appearance of the troops in brand-new uniforms, complete from head to foot. The first sight of these new uniforms of modest field-gray, faultlessly made, evoked everywhere the question: Where did they come from? On the first day of mobilization dozens of cloth manufacturers appeared at the war ministry with offers of the new material. "We don't need any," was the astonishing reply. Equal amazement was caused by the faultless new boots and shoes of the troops, especially in view of the recent famous "boot speech" of the French Senator Humbert.

Small arms, cannons and ammunition are so plentiful that they have merely to be unpacked. In view of all this, it is no wonder that the regiments marching in were everywhere greeted with jubilation, and that those marching out took leave of their garrisons with joyful songs. No one thinks of death and destruction, every one of victory and a happy reunion. German discipline, once so slandered, now celebrates its triumph.

There was still another matter in which the troops gave their countrymen cause for rejoicing. Not one drunken man was seen during these earnest days in the city streets. The General Staff had, moreover, wisely ordered that during the mobilization, when every one had money in his pockets, alcoholic drinks were not to be sold at the railroad stations. Despite this, the soldiers did not lack for refreshments on their journey. Women and girls offered their services to the Red Cross and there was no station where coffee, tea, milk and substantial food were not at the disposal of the soldiers. They were not required to suffer hunger or any other discomfort. The German anti-alcoholists are rejoicing at this earnest tribute to their principles, which were at first laughed at and then pitied, but triumphed in the days of the mobilization.

The army is increased to many times its ordinary strength by the mobilization. It draws from everywhere millions of soldiers, workmen, horses, wagons and other material. The entire railway service is at its disposal. The mobilization of the fleet goes on more quietly and less conspicuously, but not less orderly and smoothly. Indeed, it is, even in peace times, practically mobilized as to its greatest and strongest units. For this reason its transports are smaller than those of the army, they are concentrated in a few harbors, and therefore do not attract so much public attention. The naval transports, working according to plans in connection with those of the army, have moved their quotas of men and materials

with the most punctual exactitude. The naval reserve of fully trained officers and men is practically inexhaustible. The faithful work of our shipbuilding concerns, carried on uninterruptedly day and night under plans carefully prepared in time of peace, has wrought for our navy a strong increase in powerful warships.

As is known, the German fleet is built on the so-called "assumption-of-risk" plan. That is, it is intended that it shall be so strong that even the strongest sea power, in a conflict with the Germans, risks forfeiting its former role as a world factor. This "risk" idea has been hammered into the heart of every German seaman, and they are all eager to win for the fleet such glory that it can be favorably contrasted with the deeds of the old and the new armies.

Contrary to general expectation, the German fleet has taken the offensive, and the first loss of the war was on the English side and in English waters, the English cruiser Amphion running on to German mines in the mouth of the Thames. In the Baltic and the Mediterranean also German ships have taken the offensive against the enemies' coast, as is shown by the bombardment by the Germans of the war harbor of Libau and of fortified landing places on the Algerian coast.

Thus the fleet, confiding in the "risk" idea now proved to be true, and in its earnest and courageous spirit, may look forward with confidence to coming events.

But will not civilians have to hunger and thirst in these days? That is an earnest question. The answer is, No. Even in Berlin, city of millions, the milk supply did not fail for a day. Infants will not have to bear the privations of war. All provisions are to be had at reasonable prices. Empire, municipalities and merchants are working successfully together to insure that there shall be a sufficient food supply at not too great a cost. Not only is our great army mobilized, but the whole people is mobilized, and the distribution of labor, the food question and the care of the sick and wounded are all being provided for. The whole German people has become a gigantic war camp, all are mobilized to protect Kaiser, People and Fatherland, as the closing report of the Reichstag put it. And all Germany pays the tribute of a salute to the chiefs of the army and navy, who work with deeds, not words.

ARMY AND NAVY.

The German Army and Navy on the Watch. Four Million German Men in the Field. Thousands of Volunteers join the Colors to fight for Germany's Existence, among them the Flower of her Scientific and Artistic Life.

THERE can be no greater contrast than that between the United States and Germany in one of the most important questions of existence with which a state is confronted. In its whole history the United States has never had a foreign, hostile force of invaders upon its territory, foreign armies have never laid waste its fields. Until late in the last century, however, Germany was the battlefield for the then most powerful nations of Europe. The numerous German states and provinces, too, fought among themselves, often on behalf of foreign powers. The European great powers of that day were able, unhindered and unpunished, to take for themselves piece after piece of German territory. In the United States, on the other hand, it was years before the steadily increasing population attained to the boundaries set for it by nature.

Our Bismarck was finally able, in the years from 1864 to 1871, to create a great empire from the many small German states. As he himself often remarked, however, this was possible only because his policies and diplomacy

rested upon and were supported by a well trained and powerful army. How the German Empire came into being at that time is well known. A war was necessary because of the fact that the then so powerful France did not desire that North and South Germany should unite. She was not able to prevent this union, was defeated and had to give back to us two old German provinces which she had stolen from the Germans. The old Field Marshal von Moltke said not long after the war of 1870-71 that the Germans would still have to defend Alsace-Lorraine for fifty years more. Perhaps he little realized how prophetic his words were, but he and those who followed him, the German emperors and the German war ministers, prepared themselves for this coming defensive struggle and unremittingly devoted their attention to the German army.

From 1887 on there had been no doubt that in the event of war with France we should have to reckon also with Russia. This meant that the army must be strong enough to be equal to the coming fight on two borders—a tremendous demand upon the resources of a land when one considers that a peaceful people, devoted to agriculture, industry and trade, must live for decades in the constant expectation of being obliged, be it tomorrow, be it in ten years, to fight for its life against its two great military neighbors simultaneously. There are, moreover, the great money expenditures, and also the burden of universal military service, which, as is well known, requires every

able-bodied male German to serve a number of years with the colors, and later to hold himself ready, first as a reservist, then as member of the Landwehr, and finally as member of the Landsturm, to spring to arms at the call of his supreme war lord, the German Emperor. A warlike, militant nation would not long have endured such conditions, but would have compelled a war and carried it through swiftly. As BISMARCK said, however, the German army, since it is an army of the folk itself, is not a weapon for frivolous aggression. Since the German army, when it is summoned to war, represents the whole German people, and since the whole German people is peaceably disposed, it follows that the army can only be a defensive organization. If war comes, millions of Germans must go to the front, must leave their parents, their families, their children. They MUST. And this "must" means not only the command of their Emperor, but also the necessity to defend their own land. Did not this necessity exist, these sons, husbands and fathers would assuredly not go gladly to the battlefield, and it is likewise certain that those who stayed at home would not rejoice so enthusiastically to see them go as we Germans have seen them rejoicing in these days. Again, then, let us repeat that the German army is a weapon which can be and is used only for defense against foreign aggressions. When these aggressions come, the whole German people stands by its army, as it does now.

The German army is divided into 25 corps in times of peace. In war-times reservists, members of the Landwehr, and occasionally also of the Landsturm are called to the colors. The result is that the German army on a war footing is a tremendously powerful organ.

Our opponents in foreign countries have for years consistently endeavored to awaken the belief that the German soldier does his obligatory service very unwillingly, that he does not get enough to eat and is badly treated. These assertions are false, and anybody who has seen in these weeks of mobilization how our soldiers, reservists and Landwehr men departed for the field or reported at the garrisons, anybody who has seen their happy, enthusiastic and fresh faces, knows that mishandled men, men who have been drilled as machines, cannot present such an appearance.

On the day the German mobilization was ordered we traveled with some Americans from the western border to Berlin. These Americans said: "We do not know much about your army, but judging by what we have seen in these days, there prevails in it and all its arrangements such system that it must win. System must win every time." In this saying there is, indeed, much of truth—order and system are the basis upon which the mighty organization of our army is built.

Now a word concerning the German officer. He, too, has been much maligned, he is often misunderstood by foreigners, and yet we believe that the people of the

United States in particular must be able to understand the German officer. One of the greatest sons of free America, George Washington, gave his countrymen the advice to select only gentlemen as officers, and it is according to this principle that the officers of the German army and navy are chosen. Their selection is made moreover upon a democratic basis, in that the officers' corps of the various regiments decide for themselves whether they will or will not accept as a comrade the person whose name is proposed to them.

One sees that the German army is not, as many say, a tremendous machine, but rather a great, living organism, which draws its strength and lifeblood from all classes of the whole German folk. The German army can develop its entire strength only in a war which the people approves, that is, when a defensive war has been forced upon them. That this is true, will have been realized by our friends in the United States before this comes into their hands.

The German fleet is in like manner a weapon of defense. It was very small up to the end of the last century, but has since then been consistently built up according to the ground principles which Mr. Roosevelt has so often in his powerful manner laid down for the American fleet. The question has often been asked, what is there for the German fleet to defend, since the German coastline is so short? The answer is that the strength of a fleet must not be made to depend upon the length of coastlines, but upon how many ships and how much merchandise go out from

and enter the harbors, how great over-sea interests there are, how large the colonies are and how they are situated, and finally, how strong the sea powers are with which Germany may have to carry on a war and how they are situated. To meet all these requirements there is but one remedy, namely, either that our fleet shall be strong enough to prevent the strongest sea power from conducting war against us, or that, if war does come, it shall be able so to battle against the mightiest opponent that the latter shall be seriously weakened.

Germany, as especially the Americans know, has become a great merchant marine nation, whose colonies are flourishing. Furthermore, since the land's growing population has greatly increased its strength in the course of the last years, the mistrust and jealousy of Great Britain have in particular been directed steadily against the development of our ocean commerce, and later of our navy. To the upbuilding of the German navy were ascribed all manner of plans—to attack Great Britain, to make war on Japan, etc. It was even declared by the English press that Germany intended to attack the United States as soon as its fleet was strong enough. To-day, when Great Britain has needlessy declared war upon us, the Americans will perhaps believe that our fleet was never planned or built for an attack on any one. Germany desired simply to protect its coasts and its marine interests in the same manner in which it protects its land boundaries. It is realized in the United States as well as

here that a fleet can be powerful only when it has a sufficient number of vessels of all classes, and when it is thoroughly and unremittingly schooled in times of peace. We have tried to attain this ideal in Germany, and it may be remarked that the training of the personnel requires greater efforts here, since the principle of universal service is also applied to the fleet, with a resulting short term of service, whereas all foreign fleets have a long term of enlistment.

The nominal strength of the German fleet is regulated by statute, as is also the term—twenty years—at the expiration of which old vessels must automatically be replaced by new ones. This fleet-strength is set at 41 line-of-battle ships, 20 armored cruisers and 40 small cruisers, besides 144 torpedoboats and 72 submarine vessels. These figures, however, have not been reached. To offset this fact, however, almost the whole German fleet has been kept together in home waters. Great Britain's fleet is much stronger than ours, but despite this, the German fleet faces its great opponent with coolness and assurance and with that courage and readiness to undertake great deeds that mark those who know that their land has been unjustifiably attacked. It is utterly incorrect to say, as has been said, that the German naval officers are filled with hatred for other navies, especially for the British. On the contrary, the relations between German and English officers and men have always been good, almost as good as those of the Germans with the

American officers. It is not personal hatred that inspires our officers and men with the lust for battle, but their indignation over the unprovoked attack and the realization that, if every one will do his best for the Fatherland in this great hour, it will not be in vain even against the greatest naval power. We, too, are confident of this, for strenuous and faithful effort always has its reward, and this is especially true of our fleet organization. The United States realizes this as well as we, for it, too, has built up a strong and admirably trained fleet by prodigious labor. As is the case with the German fleet, the American navy also is not built for aggression, but for defense.

THE ATTITUDE OF GERMANY'S ENEMIES.

Germany overrun by Spies for years past.

IT goes without saying that in time of war the respective participants seek to gain for themselves every possible advantage, including, as not the least of these advantages, that of having public opinion on their side. It is equally understandable that governments, for political or military reasons, often endeavor to conceal their real intentions until the decisive moment. In this matter, however, as in the conduct of war itself, there exists the basic principle, acknowledged throughout the civilized world, that no methods may be employed which could not be employed by men of honor even when they are opponents. One cannot, unfortunately, acquit Russia of the charge of employing improper policies against Germany. It must, unfortunately, be said that even the Czar himself did not, at the breaking out of hostilities against Germany, show himself the gentleman upon a throne which he had formerly been believed by every one to be.

The Russian Emperor addressed himself to Kaiser William in moving and friendly expressions, in which, pledging his solemn word and appealing to the grace of God, he besought the Kaiser, shortly before the outbreak of the war, to intervene at Vienna. There exists between

Austria-Hungary and Germany an ancient and firm alliance, which makes it the duty of both governments to afford unconditional support to each other in the moment that either one's vital interests come into question. There can be no doubt that the existence of Austria-Hungary is threatened by the Servian agitation. Despite this, the German Emperor, in offering his final counsels respecting the treatment of Servia and the concessions to be made to Russia, went, in his desire for peace, almost to the point where Austria could have had doubts of Germany's fidelity to the obligations of the alliance. Nevertheless, Russia at this very time not only continued its mobilization against Austria, but also simultaneously brought its troops into a state of preparedness for war against Germany. It is impossible that this could have been done without the order of the Czar. The conduct of the Russian minister of foreign affairs, of the chief of the general staff and of the war minister was of a piece with this attitude of the ruler. They assured the German ambassador and the German military attaché upon their word of honor that troops were not being mobilized against Germany and that no attack upon Germany was planned. The facts, however, have proved that the decision to make war upon Germany had already been reached at that time.

The reason which impelled the Czar and his chief advisers to employ such base tactics with the help of their word of honor and appeals to the Supreme Being is plain. Russia requires a longer time for mobilization than Ger-

many. In order to offset this advantage, to deceive Germany and to win a few days' start, the Russian government stooped to a course of conduct as to which there can be but one judgment among brave and upright opponents. No one knew better than the Czar the German Emperor's love of peace. This love of peace was reckoned upon in the whole despicable game. Fortunately the plan was perceived on the German side at the right time. Advices received by Germany's representative in St. Petersburg concerning the actual Russian mobilization against Germany moved him to add to the report given him upon the Russian word of honor a statement of his own conviction that an attempt was obviously being made to deceive him. We find also that the character of the Russian operations had been rightly comprehended by so unimpeachable an organ as the English "Daily Graphic" of August 1st, which said: "If the mobilization order is also carried through in the provinces bordering on Germany, the work of the preservers of peace is ended, for Germany will be compelled to answer with the mobilization of her armed forces. We confess that we are unable to understand this attitude of Russia in connection with the renewal of the negotiations with Austria."

It is customary among civilized nations that a formal declaration of war shall precede the beginning of hostilities, and all powers, with the exception of some unimportant, scattered states, have obligated themselves under international law to observe this custom. Neither

Russia nor France has observed this obligation. Without a declaration of war Russian troops crossed the German border, opened fire on Germans troops and attempted to dynamite bridges and buildings. In like manner, without a declaration of war, French aviators appeared above unfortified cities in South Germany and sought, by throwing bombs, to destroy the railways. French detachments crossed the German border and occupied German villages. French aviators flew across neutral Holland and the then neutral Belgium to carry out warlike plans against the lower Rhine district of Germany. A considerable number of French officers, disguised in German uniforms, tried to cross the Dutch-German frontier in an automobile in order to destroy institutions in German territory. It is plain that both France and Russia desired to compel Germany to make the first step in declaring war, so that the appearance of having broken the peace might, in the eyes of the world, rest upon Germany. The Russian government even attempted to disseminate through a foreign news agency the report that Germany had declared war on Russia, and it refused, contrary to the usage among civilized nations, to permit to be telegraphed the report of the German ambassador that Russia had rejected the final German note concerning war and peace.

Germany for its part, in the hope that peace might yet be maintained, subjected itself to the great disadvantage of delaying its mobilization in the first decisive days in

the face of the measures of its probable enemy. When, however, the German Emperor realized that peace was no longer possible, he declared war against France and Russia honorably, before the beginning of hostilities, thus bringing into contrast the moral courage to assume the responsibility for the beginning of the conflict as against the moral cowardice of both opponents, whose fear of public opinion was such that they did not dare openly to admit their intentions to attack Germany.

Germany, moreover, cared in a humane and proper manner at the outbreak of the war for those non-combatant subjects of hostile states—traveling salesmen, travelers for pleasure, patients in health resorts, etc.—who happened to be in the country at the time. In isolated cases, where the excitement of the public grew disquieting, the authorities immediately intervened to protect persons menaced. In Russia, however, in France and especially in Belgium the opposite of decency and humanity prevailed. Instead of referring feelings of national antipathy and of national conflicting interests to the decision of the battlefield, the French mishandled in the most brutal manner the German population and German travelers in Paris and other cities, who neither could nor wished to defend themselves, and who desired solely to leave the hostile country at once. The mob threatened and mishandled Germans in the streets, in the railway stations and in the trains, and the authorities permitted it.

The occurrences in Belgium are infamous beyond all description. Germany would have exposed itself to the danger of a military defeat if it had still respected the neutrality of Belgium after it had been announced that strong French detachments stood ready to march through that country against the advancing German army. The Belgium government was assured that its interests would be conscientiously guarded if it would permit the German army to march through its territory. Its answer to this assurance was a declaration of war. In making this declaration it acted perhaps not wisely, but unquestionably within its formal rights. It was, however, not right, but, on the contrary, a disgraceful breach of right, that the eyes of wounded German soldiers in Belgium were gouged out, and their ears and noses cut off; that surgeons and persons carrying the wounded were shot at from houses.

Private dwellings of Germans in Antwerp were plundered, German women were dragged naked through the streets by the mob and shot to death before the eyes of the police and the militia. Captains of captured German ships in Antwerp were told that the authorities could not guarantee their lives. German tourists were robbed of their baggage, insulted and mishandled, sick persons were driven from the German hospital, children were thrown from the windows of German homes into the streets and their limbs were broken. Trustworthy reports of all these occurrences, from respectable and responsible men, are at hand. We perceive with the deepest in-

dignation that the cruelties of the Congo have been outdone by the motherland. When it comes to pass that in time of war among nations the laws of humanity respecting the helpless and the unarmed, the women and children, are no longer observed, the world is reverting to barbarism. Even in wartimes humanity and honor should still remain the distinguishing marks of civilization. That French and Russians, in their endeavors to spy upon Germany and destroy her institutions, should disguise themselves in German uniforms is a sad testimony to the sense of honor possessed by our opponents. He who ventures to conduct espionage in a hostile land, or secretly to plant bombs, realizes that he risks the penalty of death, whether he be a civilian or a member of the army. Up to the present, however, it has not been customary to use a uniform, which should be respected even by the enemy, to lessen the personal risk of the spy and to facilitate his undertaking.

For a number of years there have been increasing indications that France, Russia and England were systematically spying upon the military institutions of Germany. In the eight years from 1906 to 1913, 113 persons were found guilty of attempted or accomplished espionage of a grave nature. The methods employed by these spies included theft, attacks upon military posts and the employment of German officers' uniforms as disguises. The court proceedings threw a clear light upon the organization and operations of espionage in Germany.

This espionage was directed from central points in foreign countries, often in the small neighboring neutral states. Repeatedly it appeared that the foreign embassies and consulates in Germany assisted in this work; it was also discovered that Russia, France and England were exchanging reports which they had received concerning Germany's means of defense.

This espionage system was supported with large funds. It endeavored whenever possible to seduce military persons and officials to betray their country, and, when this was not possible, it devoted its attention to doubtful characters of every sort. It began its work with petty requests of a harmless appearance, followed these with inducements to violations of duty, and then proceeded with threats of exposure to compel its victims to betray their country further. Exact instructions, complete in the minutest detail, were given to the spies for the carrying on of their work; they were equipped with photographic apparatus, with skeleton keys, forged passes, etc.; they received fixed monthly salaries, special bonuses for valuable information, and high rewards for especially secret matters, such as army orders, descriptions of weapons and plans of fortifications. Principal attention was paid to our boundaries, railroads, bridges and important buildings on lines of traffic, which were spied upon by specially trained men. With the reports of these spies as their basis, our opponents have carefully planned the destruction of the important German

lines of communication. The extraordinary watchfulness of the German military officials immediately before the declaration of war and since then has been able to render futile the whole system of foreign attempts against our means of communication in every single instance, but a great number of such attempts have been made. All these things prove beyond doubt that a war against Germany has long been planned by our opponents.

GERMANY, ENGLAND, AND THE NEUTRALITY OF BELGIUM.

THERE is no question that there would have been ample opportunity for English diplomacy to secure guarantees from us that after our victory England's interests in their most essential and vital points would be assured. On condition of course, that the English expressed their readiness to recognize us as an equal power. But England could not make up her mind to this. She replied with subterfuges and refusals to the repeated and urgent requests of the German government to state the terms of her neutrality. To the direct question whether England would remain neutral in case Germany respected Belgian neutrality, Mr. Grey gave an ambiguous and evasive answer.

Under these circumstances it would have been out of the question for us to abandon our march through Belgium. Moreover, we learned that a French army was preparing to advance into Belgium. The German Chancellor was therefore perfectly right when he described the principle of Belgian neutrality as nothing but a scrap of paper.

England would never have thought of championing the cause of Belgium's neutrality if France, instead of Germany, had violated it. It is laughable when Englishmen speak of the sacredness of any declaration of neutrality. In the year 1807 Denmark was a neutral state, and yet, although in time of peace, the Danish fleet was seized. This is a typical example of the observance or non-observ-

ance of the neutrality of small States which, for special reasons, are important to mighty belligerent powers. Denmark had remained neutral at the outbreak of the so-called third War of Coalition against France. Austria and Russia on the continent, and England on the sea fought against NAPOLEON. For England it was of vital importance that NAPOLEON should not acquire the possession of a sea power which would enable him to protect the transportation of an army of invasion to England. The Danish fleet was a considerable power for those days, and as the possibility existed that NAPOLEON would force Denmark, as he had forced Spain, to place her fleet at his disposal, the English government sent an ultimatum to Denmark which required that Denmark should conclude an alliance and place her fleet at England's disposal, otherwise force would be used. Denmark refused, and the English thereupon bombarded Copenhagen for four days, from September 2nd to the 5th 1807, and took the whole Danish fleet off with them to England. It was characteristic of English methods that a verbose manifesto was published simultaneously, to the effect that the measure was not caused by enmity to Denmark, but in the interest of peace and humanity, in other words, to destroy the possibility of an attack by NAPOLEON, the disturber of the peace, on England, the guardian of liberty.

It is instructive to compare this violation of Danish neutrality by England, with the violation of Belgian neutrality by Germany. England acted in the interest of her

safety against the impendig French attack. Germany has acted in the Belgian question not only in the interest of her safety but of her existence. The German nation is involved in a war on two frontiers against France and against Russia. This struggle can only be brought to a successful issue by overcoming first one power with all our strength and then the other. A division of the German army, with one half against France and the other against Russia, would not give her sufficient strength to win the victory on either side. Nor could the Austrian alliance be of any help, for the Russian western battle-front is so long, and the Russian army so large, that Germany and Austria-Hungary might be attacked at the same time. We must therefore conduct our fight in the east with an inferior force, on the defensive, keeping the enemy in play, while on the other side every effort must be made with the greatest energy.

Russia mobilizes slowly and needs much time for her advance; France on the contrary, is equal to Germany in the rapidity of her mobilization. But the German-French frontier is only several hundred miles long, a considerable stretch of which is occupied by the mountainous barrier of the Vosges, which makes all extensive military operations difficult. The entire stretch of open country opposite the boundary-line has for decades been put into such a state of defense by the French that it would be very difficult to achieve a decisive victory without undue delay. If the German army is to be victorious against the French

army before the immense multitudes of Russia throw themselves on Germany from the east, then the line of frontal attack against France must be lengthened at any cost. Only then can she outflank France and force her to yield. But that is impossible without the approach through Belgium. For that reason the German government demanded that Belgium should permit the peaceful passage of her armies.

If Germany had acquiesced in England's demand that Belgian neutrality should be respected, France's power of resistance would have been greatly augmented. The German troops would have suffered great loss of time and immense sacrifice of life before the formidable positions of the French in Lorraine. In modern warfare it is almost impossible to take well fortified and strongly defended positions by frontal attack. Therefore Russia would have gained time to complete her advance, and a Russian army of millions would have invaded Germany while the main German forces were engaged against France. The result of the war must in such a case have been disastrous for Germany. The best she could have hoped for would have been a treaty of peace on the grounds of common exhaustion.

Such a result of the "world war" would of course be in England's interest. Nevertheless, if Germany should by immeasurable sacrifices succeed in overcoming the French in due time, England would still have had the resource of intervention in readiness, that is, through her alliance with France and Russia, against a weakened Germany.

And there is no doubt about it that England would not have hesitated to use this means as soon as it seemed to further her interests. But English interest in regard to Germany was expressed long ago in that celebrated article in the London weekly "Saturday Review": "*Commercial jealousy will finally create out of innumerable petty differences the greatest war that the world has ever seen. If Germany were exterminated to-morrow, there would not be an Englishman in the world who would not be the richer for it. Nations have fought for years for a city or a succession,—must they not carry on a war for an annual trade of 5 milliards of marks?*"

Since the writing of these words in 1897, the trade of Germany, which constitutes the object of English rivalry, has more than doubled, and the English threat applies even more fitly to the present time. The abandonment of the advance through Belgium would not have preserved Germany from sooner or later being confronted with England as an enemy; but the restriction of the German offensive to Lorraine would have resulted in the most serious military disadvantages and caused the loss of countless human lives. The French troops were on the Belgian-French frontier ready to advance against the right flank of the German army. French officers were already in Liège when the attack of the German advance-guard took place. According to recent French newspapers there were quantities of English artillery ammunition stored as early as the year 1913 in Maubeuge, a French fort on the Bel-

gian frontier. The English guns are of a different calibre from that of the French. It is to be seen therefore from the laying of this depot that the landing of English troops in France had been planned, also their operation in conjunction with the French from the Belgian frontier. Moreover we remember that English officers themselves admitted in confidence that in 1911, during the Morocco crisis, the plan was discussed by England and France (in the event of a war with Germany) of sending an English auxiliary army to force its way into the Schelde past Flushing, land in Antwerp, and advance against the German army through Belgium. England herself therefore, had no idea of respecting Belgium's neutrality if her interest in the military conquest of Germany required a violation of her guarantee. If there had been the certainty, or even only a probability that England, as an equivalent for the integrity of Belgium, would have remained as neutral as in 1870-71 (when she, as is well-known, supported the French by furnishing them with ammunition and supplies), the Belgian question would have had quite a different aspect for Germany. Such a certainty, however, did not exist, and there was no alternative but to demand a free passage.

Nevertheless the German government offered the Belgian government before the advance, and after the conquest of Liège, the full guarantee that the territory and the independence of Belgium should remain the same after the war as before it. Belgium preferred to decline this

loyal offer and to settle the difference by force of arms. No one regretted this necessity more than the German government, but we repeat: in the march through Belgium lay Germany's only means of conquering the French so promptly that after the victory in the west the approaching Russian superior forces could be successfully repulsed. The result of the war, the destiny of Germany, the future of Germanic culture in central Europe all depended on this Belgian question.

LOUVAIN AND THE BELGIAN ATROCITIES.

WHAT must be one's first concern upon invading a foreign country? The French Minister of Finance, Cambon, asked this question at the end of the year 1792, when the French decided to set the Belgians free. His answer was: "To take possession of the enemies' property as security for the payment of the cost of the war."

The French conducted themselves according to this rule and placed under their own protection all public property of the state, of the municipalities and of corporations. That is to say, they stole it. They confiscated property of religious bodies and charitable endowments, cut down forests, etc. The rabble, eager to plunder, and greedy commercial adventurers assisted in this work.

It was in vain that the Belgians protested. The representatives of the inhabitants of Hainault said: "You have seized the property of our state, and even our private property. Not even our former despots dared to go that far when they declared us to be rebels. And you say that you are bringing us freedom!"

Different from the conduct of the French friends and liberators of the Belgians in 1792 was the conduct of the German troops when, at the beginning of the great war of 1914, they were compelled, in order to carry on the campaign against France according to the demands of the

strategic exigencies, to force their way through Belgium. Private property remained untouched. There was nowhere any looting or robbing. The commanding officers spared even public property so long as no resistance was offered.

In Luxemburg the government and the people wisely submitted to military necessities. The Luxemburgers were not friendly to Germany, but they have become so since they have observed how the allegedly cruel but in reality good-hearted German troops conduct themselves. Not a Luxemburger has suffered injury or loss.

But the Belgians were misled. The responsible statesmen at least should have taken to heart the experiences of history. When the French liberators of 1792 kept on plundering and robbing, the Belgians revolted in 1798 in the hope of English assistance. And the English, it is true, did land troops, but only to destroy the costly locks of the Bruges Canal. The Belgians appear unfortunately to have forgotten what their land has had to suffer under the French greed for domination and for robbery and the selfishness and faithlessness of the English.

The Belgians are to be pitied. For years they had been letting themselves be incited to a fanatical hatred against the German Empire and the Germans. They believed blindly all the insinuations, calumnies and accusations brought against Germany by the French newspapers—whose venality was proved in the Panama Canal scandal process—and repeated by the Belgian press, French the-

atrical pieces, French films, French cabarets, etc. The German officer was pictured as a spy and a ravisher of women, the German soldiers appeared as brutes in the form of men, the German Empire as an inciter of war, as the «German octopus», with mighty tentacles, as the land of reaction, arrogance and uncouthness. The Belgian press took part in this Parisian campaign of libels, and the Belgian government, on account of its relations with France, in violation of its neutrality, bears a part of the blame.

The seed of hatred and contempt thus sown was destined to bear a frightful crop.

In many places the population was sensible, at first even in Liège. A report to a Belgian paper from that city says:

The Germans comport themselves quietly; they pay cash for what they need. However, strong proclamations have been issued. All the public buildings of the city have been occupied by the German troops, including the buildings of the university and the schools. No troops, however, have been billeted upon the inhabitants. Belgian flags still fly everywhere; one sees no German flags. One charming detail is reported. The doves that have their nests on the old bishop's palace are accustomed to being fed on one corner of the square in front of the palace. The Germans have not molested this corner, although they have occupied all the rest of the square.

A Dutch eye-witness confirmed this report of German discipline. He wrote:

Women and children arriving in Maastricht from Liège praise the conduct of the German troops. If the inhabitants show themselves friendly and peaceful, the German soldiers treat them with the same friendliness. Many soldiers give the children chocolate and give cigars and cognac to the men. In order to anticipate the slanderous accu-

sation that the chocolate is poisoned, they first break off a piece and eat it themselves.

Despite the excellent German discipline, there were the most violent excesses in many places. A military surgeon reports:

To begin with: A few villages have been entirely burned down, and in others some houses have been burned. But now for the reasons. When one has read with horror of the mutilation of our brave troops in the southwest, it must have seemed to him that such things could not happen in civilized Europe. Our troops here have experienced things at the hands of the Belgian population, from men, women and half-grown boys, that are usually experienced only in wars against savage peoples in Africa. *The civilian populace of Belgium shoots with blind hatred from every house, every bush, at everything German.* In the very first days we had a number of soldiers killed or wounded by these civilians. The women took as great a part as the men. One German's throat was cut while he was sleeping in his bed at night. Another house displayed the Red Cross flag. Five soldiers were billeted there. In the morning they were all dead from stab wounds. In a village in Verviers we found a lone soldier with his hands tied behind his back and his eyes gouged out. A wagon of an automobile division going toward Liège stopped in a village. A young woman approached the chauffeur, suddenly shoved a revolver into his face and shot him dead. In such cases the offenders are instantly shot, but neither this nor the burning of the houses has any effect on the people. A number of wounded exhibited wounds that were inexplicable to me at first, since the bullets had entered the upper thigh behind and emerged near the tip of the spinal column. I learned later how this had come about. A supply column, led by a non-commissioned officer, was fired on at night by inhabitants of a village. The men crept under the wagon and started firing between the spokes of the wheels. Suddenly the officer felt something shoved against him from the rear, there was a shot and he was disabled. Two of the wounded in my care have small shot in the eyes. One had his hand badly wounded while the troops were marching past a hedge at twilight. A man concealed in the hedge stuck a

revolver out and fired at such close range that his victim's skin was filled with particles of burned powder. The right arm of another soldier was so badly shattered by a charge of shot at night at close range that it had to be taken off. In Gemmenich, some three miles from Aix-la-Chapelle, the inhabitants held up a motor ambulance corps and fired on it from all the houses. The escort of Hussars was too weak to accomplish much, but it succeeded in capturing and shooting three of the assailants and burned the house from which most of the shots had come. *The Red Cross on our arms and our wagons does not protect us surgeons in the least.* In a number of battles we have been compelled to witness how wounded, who had been carried back from the firing line, and others, who were being taken by wagon to the lazaretts, were shot or otherwise murdered by the inhabitants of nearby villages. A number of Germans were badly injured while working to clear a tunnel which had been destroyed. Women threw stones at these severely injured men that lay on the embankments, and ridiculed them. A man from Aix-la-Chapelle came through the Belgian border town of Gemmenich in an automobile, with a military chauffeur. When near the town, he left the car for a minute and stepped to the side of the road. A shot from a hedge killed him instantly. Such, then, is the method of battle of the civilized Belgian people. Is it not natural that one's blood boils in his veins and that rage takes the place of reason? And then the Belgians wonder when we deal without scruple with civilians who are only even suspected of participation in these things. One rejoices and is proud to say "civis Germanus sum" when he sees the conduct of our splendid army, but his heart bleeds the more when our poor boys bleed to death from the wound of a peasant's shot-gun or a Belgian woman's kitchen-knife. And shall it be reckoned against us when they wipe from the face of the earth the villages in which our men are exposed to such attacks?

A Dutch eye-witness reported concerning Liège:

Shots came from the houses; boys and girls threw stones at the soldiers; even old men fired from behind doors at the advancing troops. The troops shot down everyone who opposed them, according to the usages of war. When those of the inhabitants who had not yet fled

appeared to have abandoned their attack, the commanding officer ordered the troops to form a hollow square, with the remaining inhabitants inside. The soldiers distributed among the people a printed proclamation, in which it was declared, in French, that the Germans had not come to conquer the country, and that they would respect the property and rights of the Belgians. The commander then stepped forward and addressed the inhabitants in French. He repeated that the Belgians must not consider the Germans as enemies and that only urgent necessity had led to the invasion of Belgian territory. The inhabitants, he said, must reconcile themselves to the German military regulations. Every attack upon the German troops would be considered treason and punished with death. As the commander uttered the last word, a shot was heard and he fell dead. A group of about eight persons, from whose midst the shot had come, was arrested and all were shot on the spot.

Here are further details:

A severely wounded German soldier, a victim of the fanatic Belgian population, was brought to Aix-la-Chapelle. He had been carried into a house in a Belgian village from which the Red Cross flag floated. Instead of caring for him, the inhabitants of the house threw him out of the second-story window and then fled. The soldier can hardly live.

In another Belgian village a German officer asked for something to drink. The owner of the saloon gave him a glass of wine and, while he was drinking, thrust a knife into his abdomen.

In Liège the women poured boiling oil from the windows upon the soldiers. The French press confirms this heroic deed and declares that Belgian working women put 2,000 German soldiers hors de combat in this manner.

An officer entered a house and requested a drink. Only women were present. As he lifted the glass, he was shot in the back by one of the women.

A boy offered cigarettes to a soldier and at the same time fired at him.

A white flag fluttered from a church tower. The house of God was to be respected. And then came shots from the windows.

The brave men who serve as chauffeurs and who advance almost to the firing line meet the same kind of treatment. Wherever they pass

through Belgians they meet a storm of bullets and treacherous attacks. I spoke with a chauffeur who had received a grazing shot across the cheek and who had a shattered finger. His lieutenant had been shot in the leg. He had been ambuscaded from a thicket near Gemmenich.

A wounded soldier tells the following story:

My comrade fell by my side, shot in the leg. He could not drag himself further. In the next moment a number of the rabble had thrown themselves on him and—I shudder in telling it, but it is God's truth—one of the men sawed both his legs off with a big bucksaw. I could observe it as we were retreating.

And finally: After Captain Arnim von Klützow had fallen in the enemy's country, his wife, Helene von Klützow, née Hoyer von Rotenheim, came to carry her husband's body home. On the way she was killed by cowardly murderers.

Two Swedish women, Mrs. Dagmar Waldner and her daughter, who were staying at Büsbach, near Aix-la-Chapelle, and who had seen many trainloads of wounded soldiers, wrote to the Swedish newspaper "Dagens Nyheter" at the beginning of September:

Nearly all the Germans had received their wounds in fights with franc-tireurs. Among the wounded were members of 'Jungdeutschland' (the German Boy Scouts organization), whose ears had been cut off by Belgian women. In the Belgian city of Demenis the Germans had brought twelve of their wounded together at a certain place. The ambulance corps left them lying for a few minutes while they went after automobiles to carry them to the lazarett. While they were absent, Belgian women and girls came and poured petroleum over the clothing and faces of the wounded men. In many houses the Belgians hung out Red Cross flags. The Germans confidingly brought their wounded thither. As soon as the ambulance corps had left the houses, the Belgian women threw the helpless wounded soldiers out of the windows. Mrs. Waldner declared that she could tell of a great number of similar instances.

From the letter of a soldier in the field the Berlin "Tageblatt" published the following on September 14th:

After marching through Luxemburg, where we had plenty of bread and drinking water, we bivouacked in the village of Tavigny. There we had our first baptism of fire. At 1 o'clock in the morning—we were in a barn in a field—a murderous fire was suddenly opened upon us. One of my comrades opened the door and fell dead beside me, shot through the heart. I cannot describe the terrible moments that followed. We had two men killed and six wounded. We rushed out of the barn, whereupon a fearful street battle began. Franc-tireurs and Belgians tried to wipe us out. There were even women and girls among them. By morning we had killed 38 Belgians and taken 40 prisoners. We compelled the prisoners to bury the dead and then to dig their own graves. Then we shot them all. Incidents like this occurred frequently. The inhabitants, pretending friendship, welcomed us, and then shot at us from ambush.

The Hamburg "Nachrichten" published at the beginning of September, from the pen of a captain, the following description of the carefully prepared plan of campaign of the Belgian franc-tireurs:

A civilized people like the Germans can have no conception of the conduct of the inhabitants. I believe that I can prove that the Belgians were officially encouraged in this franc-tireur warfare by the French. This must be true, for all the houses here which I have so far investigated—about ten in all—had been long prepared for an action of this kind. *The houses have loopholes in the roofs which were made by expert workmen in this line.* Some of them consisted of iron pipes through the walls, with a hinged steel cover, closing from the outside. When the inhabitants stuck their guns through these tubes, the covers opened. When the gun was drawn back, the cover fell over the opening. In many houses—I have investigated them personally, together with my lieutenants—these loopholes were so made that they looked from the outside exactly like ornamental tile projections. The covers are of iron, covered with cement on the outside. This shows that they

were made before war was declared, which means that *the Belgians systematically prepared for hostilities.* The steel covers in the house in which we were quartered—a villa belonging to very wealthy people—all bore the number 3,350. Judging by this, they were made in a factory and numbered according to the houses for which they were designed. *Furthermore, nearly all the church towers were equipped with machine guns.* We have found some of these, with many cartridges. We have now captured all the male inhabitants in our district and brought them to the rear.

Canes and umbrellas, some 32 inches long, concealing guns which could be fired by pressing on a button, were found on Belgian franc-tireurs.

Because of such atrocities and violations of the rules of warfare, the German government, in the middle of August, issued through a neutral power the following warning to the Belgian government:

"The royal Belgian government has rejected Germany's well meant offer to spare Belgium the horrors of war. It has resisted by force the march of German troops through its territory, a method of campaign made necessary by the plans of Germany's enemies, and has brought war upon itself. Despite the communication of August 8th, in which the Belgian government declared that it would conduct the war only by means of uniformed troops, in accordance with the rules of warfare, a great number of the inhabitants, masked in civilian clothing, have taken part in the fighting around Liège. They have not only shot at German troops, but they have also murdered the wounded in an atrocious manner, and have shot down surgeons while these were performing their duties. At the same time, mobs in Antwerp have destroyed German property in a barbaric manner and have bestially slain German women and children. Germany demands, before the entire civilized world, a reckoning for the blood of these innocent persons and for Belgium's method of carrying on war, which is a blow in the face of all civilization. If the war hereafter assumes a gruesome character, the

fault is Belgium's. In order to protect the German troops from the unchained passions of the people, every person without a uniform, who is not distinguished by some plain mark showing that he has a right to participate in the war, will be considered outside the protection of the rules of warfare when he takes part in the fighting, interferes with German lines of communication, cuts telegraph wires, plants mines, or, in short, participates in the war in any unjustifiable manner. He will be considered a franc-tireur and will be immediately shot."

For weeks after the occupation of Belgium, German troops, officials and travellers were fired upon by the incensed inhabitants from ambush, from houses, even from churches, from bushes and forests. What troop commander could let such treacheries go unpunished?

At the beginning of September the commanding general of the seventh army corps issued this renewed warning:

"I learn that a newspaper has declared that the severe measures of our military commanders against the reprehensible franc-tireur operations in Belgium were dictated by a feeling of revenge and desire for retaliation. This article, against which I have taken the measures demanded by my duty, gives me occasion to address an explanatory word to the inhabitants in the district occupied by the seventh army corps. The secret, treacherous attacks which have been made by a hostile population in many places against our brave troops, and which still persist in places, make it the absolute duty of our commanders to proceed against such atrocious crimes with ruthless and iron severity. To show weakness here would be to betray our own army. Not a hair of the peaceful inhabitants of the country will be touched. The discipline of our troops, known to the whole world, is a guaranty for this. They fight as soldiers against soldiers in honorable battle. If, however, the brave sons of our people, who go out to the field to meet hardship and death for the Fatherland, if wounded, surgeons and others who care for the wounded are miserably murdered by a misled, mad populace, if the safety of the army is threatened

by the attacks of guerillas from the rear, it becomes a law of self-preservation and a sacred duty of the military commanders to proceed against these crimes immediately with the most extreme measures. The innocent must then suffer with the guilty. The commanders of our army have in repeated proclamations made it plain that human lives cannot be regarded in suppressing such shameful crimes. That some houses, even flourishing villages and whole cities have to be destroyed in this process is certainly to be regretted, but it must not give occasion for unjustifiable mental perturbation. These houses, villages and cities cannot be worth so much to us as the life of a single soldier. This is self-evident and hardly needs to be said. To show compassion here would be a sinful weakness. The blood of the innocent is upon the heads of the inciters of these shameful attacks. There can be no talk of revenge and retaliation such as was contained in the newspaper article of which I have spoken, an article which I fail to understand. Our commanders—to repeat it once more—are simply doing their duty, and they will continue to do this duty until the glorious end of the war. They will protect our soldiers from murderers in the most ruthless manner and at any cost. Whoever talks here of barbarism speaks wantonly. The iron performance of one's duty is a fruit of the higher culture, and the population of the hostile countries cannot but learn this from our army.»

Some Belgian villages had to be burned down because, through their representatives, they had given the German troops a friendly welcome and then attacked them in the streets and from the houses. Belgian villages suffered only where the German soldiers had been fired on from the houses. Liège, whose most beautiful bridge over the Maas was blown up by the Belgians themselves, shows few traces of the combat. Many Liège factories have resumed operations under the German rule, with the assistance of German engineers. Verviers and the other occupied cities, foremost of all Brussels, remain quite undamaged.

In **Louvain**, on the contrary, there were gross excesses by the inhabitants against the German troops.

In the forenoon of August 19th the Belgian troops retired from Louvain. The Germans entered immediately thereafter.

It is true that the Belgian officials had, through posters on the walls, warned the populace not to shoot at the German troops. The French incitations of the people, however, had been too long permitted and too industriously carried on.

Immediately following the entry of the German troops, their commander had ordered that all houses must be shut at 8 o'clock in the evening and that the inhabitants must stay at home. All weapons were to be surrendered, on pain of death.

Four outwardly quiet days had passed, from August 20th to 23rd, when the local German commander received disquieting reports, which moved him to demand that the police officials of the city furnish hostages against the event that the German troops should be fired on. As a Belgian priest, an inhabitant of Louvain, who was himself later held as a hostage, testifies, the German commander made a concession to the police authorities. It was agreed that the clergy of Louvain should warn the populace and advise them to be quiet. The dean of Louvain immediately complied with this arrangement. In all the churches and at all services the people were warned to be peaceful.

On August 25th the Belgian troops in Antwerp made a well prepared sortie. It is possible that the people of Louvain had secretly learned of this, for when the troops returned to that city toward evening the inhabitants, trusting in a victory of the Belgian troops, thought they could crush the weak German detachment occupying the town. Shooting from the houses in several streets began at 8 o'clock in the evening. F. Schotthöfer wrote the following report of this firing in the Frankfort "Gazette":

The troops occupying the railroad station were eating supper, the officers were in the hotels. Nobody expected any trouble. An alarm was instantly sounded and the soldiers marched through the streets. The major selected several hostages, who were compelled to walk ahead of him and make clear to the inhabitants, in the French and Flemish languages, the dangerous consequences of their actions. It did no good. A short while later the shooting began anew, and lasted throughout the night. The soldiers captured a number of the inhabitants with weapons in their hands, who were tried by court-martial on the following morning and shot. A detachment of artillery, which arrived late in the evening, fired six shots at houses that were already burning. This shows that there can be no talk of a bombardment. A portion of the populace was guilty of cruelties against the wounded. German soldiers with their hands cut off and their abdomens ripped up were found in the Rue Marie Therese. A color bearer had been shot squarely in the top of the head, showing that the shot came from above. Later, too, a matter that had not excited any attention was seen in its true significance—the citizens, when troops were billeted upon them, had requested only officers and had been unwilling to house the officers' servants.

A Louvain priest also heard the firing on this occasion. He took refuge in his cellar, and wrote on August 26th and 27th the following:

Wednesday, August 26th. Many persons are asking to be admitted to our house, but we have to refuse them. The military surgeon who visits the wounded who have been brought here protects us. Two hostages, one of them the vice-rector of the university, have come to us and declared that they would be shot if the people in the streets shot at the troops again. Both of the hostages announced this in all the streets of the city. The military surgeon brought them back and asked for more hostages, so that the proclamations, warning the people to remain quiet, could be repeated, to the end that quiet be restored and the shooting cease. These hostages came to the local commander, who was very polite. He was just in the act of handing them passes authorizing them to go through the streets when civilians suddenly opened fire on German troops in front of the city hall. The hostages were detained and were forced to march through the streets until 4 o'clock in the morning, warning the people to be quiet. They had to do the same thing the following day. One of the hostages told me that he had seen people shooting at him from windows and cellars."

Thursday, August 27th. "All endeavors to keep the people quiet were in vain. The German commander thereupon gave the inhabitants notice to take refuge at once at the railway station, since the city was to be bombarded. We ourselves cried out this command at the top of our voices, to the accompaniment of the long roll from drums and of bugle signals, in French and Flemish, in all the streets, but the shooting at German soldiers continued. At the station we met acquaintances, who were going to Germany. As a born Belgian and citizen of Louvain, as a well known priest, who was himself a hostage, I swear to these statements and unreservedly pledge my priestly honor that they are true.

Another eye-witness, Dr. Coenrads, vice-rector of the University of Louvain, also a hostage, says:

As I assumed my duties on the afternoon of August 25th, a frightful fire upon the German troops began. It did not come from regular troops, for there were no longer any Belgian soldiers in the city. As we sat there in our room, frightened and not knowing what to do, a high German officer entered and declared that there had plainly been a conspiracy. When the shooting died down toward evening, we walked

up and down the Rue de la Station in order to warn the inhabitants to be peaceable. Father Dillon spoke to the crowds in Flemish, Senator Orbau de Xivry in French. Then we returned to the city hall and went to bed.

On the following morning we were taken to the station, where we were to be lodged in a railway coach. In the waiting-room the officers drew up a proclamation, which was to be read in the city. It said:

"We have hostages from you. If another shot is fired, we shall shoot them. The city will be punished and an indemnity of 20,000,000 francs will be demanded."

We went through the city with this proclamation. Father Dillon read it in some 40 to 50 places. Two officers, with loaded revolvers pointed at us, stood by our side. Twenty German infantrymen followed, and a number of sisters were at the end of the procession. Women, children and men stood all about us, weeping, raising their arms to heaven and crying that they would do all they could to save us from being killed. As we were reading the proclamation at the corner of the Rue Frederic Lints, shots were again fired at the Germans. We marched through the streets for five hours, reading the proclamation. Then I begged to be permitted to return to my home. A German staff surgeon, Dr. Berghausen of Cologne, kindly offered to accompany me. I owe my life to him. We had reached the Rue Leopold when a shot was fired from the Marché au Grain. German soldiers on the other side of the street immediately aimed their rifles at me. Dr. Berghausen threw himself in front of me, covering me with his body, and my life was saved.

More than 200 German soldiers fell in these days as victims of the Belgian guerillas of Louvain. As many more were murdered while they slept. Simultaneously with the sortie from Antwerp and the murders of German soldiers by the Louvain franc-tireurs, the German troops in the surrounding villages were treacherously attacked. More than

360 Belgians, nearly half of them women, were arrested in Louvain, more than 120 in Liège and more than 350 in the Brussels district. All these had shot German soldiers from ambush and tortured and brutally mutilated the wounded.

A member of the German Reichstag, the Social Democrat Fischer, answering the query, "What happened in Louvain?" said: "The German army does not wage barbaric war like that waged by the Cossacks from the moment of their invasion of East Prussia with robbery, murder and arson. Man, woman and child and their home are not threatened when German troops enter a village or city. Suddenly the German soldiers, believing that they are in an unfortified city and that there is no enemy near, are threatened by shots from the houses, from churches and museums. Cannot anyone understand how these soldiers, urged by the spirit of self-preservation, impelled to a wild anger by this treacherous, dishonorable attack, have but one idea-to kill their assailants and destroy the buildings behind which they have concealed themselves? It is terrible, *but upon whom does the blame rest?*"

And upon whom does the blame rest? A few days after the murderous attacks in Louvain the Belgian minister of state, Cooreman, as chairman of a commission appointed to investigate cruelties alleged to have been perpetrated by the Germans, answered the above question with the following words, which were published in the Antwerp "Métropole" of August 31st:

The Germans have but a single step to take before descending to cannibalism. There is, moreover, no indication that this war will not show instances of cannibalism. The furor teutonicus shows with what satisfaction the German reverts to barbarism.

When a minister of state gives expression to such foolish statements, it cannot be wondered that the rabble, which trusts in him and follows his lead, reaches for its weapons and does murderous deeds.

A former member of the House of Commons spoke truthfully when he said, through the columns of the "Westminster Gazette", the widely read London newspaper, at the beginning of September: "When the people of the city suddenly fired from their houses at the German troops, *it was unavoidable that this mad act should lead to the natural consequences.*"

The English premier, on the contrary, who is fighting against Germany side by side with Russians, Japanese, Turkos and like associates, had the effrontery to declare that the alleged destruction of Louvain was "the greatest crime since the Thirty Years War". Bismarck was right. The hypocrisy of the English politicians is in a class alone.

After occurrences like those in Louvain, French, English, Russian and even Belgian soldiers would, in justifiable resentment, have destroyed the whole city and razed it to the ground. In the Boer War the English burned all the farmhouses, even in open warfare.

It is allegad that the Germans conducted themselves in Louvain like Huns and deliberately destroyed the most

valuable works of art. And these were the same Germans who, in their own land, guard monuments of nature and of art with such understanding!

Controverting this, an official of the German Imperial Government in Belgium, who was sent to Louvain in his official capacity, submitted the following report:

Brussels, September 7, 1914.

I went to Louvain yesterday, following a request of the local commander there, who had expressed a wish to confer with an imperial government official concerning the necessary measures to be taken in the interests of the local government. At the outset I place on record the fact that **only one sixth to one fifth of the city is destroyed.** The district about the railway station has suffered the most. Only those houses from which the troops were shot at were deliberately set on fire. **Most of the public buildings are untouched, especially the wonderful Rathaus, which, with the exception of a few broken windows, is entirely undamaged.** A few buildings were destroyed by being set on fire by flying embers, among them the university, with its library, and the municipal theatre. St. Peter's Church is but slightly damaged, so that it can easily be restored. Moreover, **all the more valuable articles, especially the altar pictures, were saved from the church by our soldiers.** The preservation of the works of art is mainly due to the energetic and intelligent intervention of the commander, Major von Manteuffel, formerly district commander in Altenburg, and of his two adjutants, who, with the able assistance of Colonel Bock of the railway troops, did everything possible to prevent the conflagration from spreading. Major von Manteuffel exerted himself especially to save the Rathaus and the Benedictine Abbey of Mont César. As early as August 28th—the fire was on August 25th—some degree of order was restored. The bodies of the inhabitants who had been shot—some 160 to 180—had been buried and the work of clearing up the ruins had been energetically begun. The university professor Nerinex placed himself at the disposal of the military authorities, and was entrusted with the conduct of the office of burgomaster, a work which he is

performing in a completely satisfactory manner. A number of court officials and the chief official of the state-attorney's department returned at the same time, so that the courts could be reopened. The authorities of the department of justice have effectively supported the military authorities by their rigorous procedure against the rabble. The greater part of the population has fled to Brussels and Mechlin. Since, however, the military commander has authorized the citizens, and especially the business-men, to return, the population is visibly increasing. A number of stores have been reopened and a representative of the Brussels branch of the "Deutsche Bank" has already returned to Louvain. The commander has furthermore made it possible for the railroad from Brussels to Louvain to resume traffic to a limited extent, so that one passenger and one freight train now run daily in both directions. This gives to one of Louvain's chief industries, that of brewing, which is generally being carried on, an opportunity of getting its supplies and sending out its product by rail. Moreover, the necessaries of life for Louvain can be brought in by this railway. This is especially important for the city's meat supply, since, although there is at present a sufficient supply of meat on hand, it would hardly last beyond the end of the current week, since all livestock has been driven away. Public utilities—water supply, gas and electricity—have been reestablished so far as possible. The water system, which in the first days following the fire lacked pressure on account of the great amount of water used, is again functioning, except at the railway station, where wells have to be resorted to. The gas works are still out of operation, and it has been impossible to resume electric lighting, since the power-houses in Mecheln as yet furnish no current for Louvain. The prisoners in the penitentiary are being cared for by the municipal officials. There are no Germans among the prisoners. According to the statements of the prison superintendent, which are credited, those whose terms had expired—seven in all—were released, and ten others, whose time was not yet up, were transferred to Aix-la-Chapelle.

No, Louvain has not been destroyed. The citizens have German goodheartedness and discipline to thank for the

preservation of their city. In the south the city was entirely undamaged, in the west almost entirely. It was only in the eastern part, where the guerillas made their stand, especially in the Rue de la Station, that many houses were destroyed, and even here many were spared, proving that the destruction was not carried out according to a prearranged plan. The beautiful Rathaus caught fire, but was saved with the help of German troops. As Dr. Helfferich, director of the "Deutsche Bank", was able to testify after a personal investigation, while the German soldiers carried on the work of saving the building they were continuosly being shot at by Louvain citizens.

All the accusations that the German troops committed cruelties, acts of violence, looting or deliberate acts of vandalism have long been disproved, as well by neutral witnesses, and especially by American reporters.

If the Belgian minister Vandervelde should in reality go to America, in order to give illustrated lectures there repeating the Belgian slanders, the truth will follow close upon his heels.

In view of the violation of the rules of warfare by the fanatic Belgians, of the barbarous excesses committed by the Belgian rabble against German and Austrian guests in Ostende, against German travelers in Antwerp and other cities, who were stoned, robbed and murdered, and in view of the ackowledged German discipline, the State Department at Washington has long since pigeonholed the Belgian protests.

It is to be expected that the government at Washington will deal in the same way with the protest sent out by President Poincaré from Bordeaux on September 12th. After it has been proved that Belgian, English and French troops have, in violation of the rules of warfare, employed dumdum bullets, he makes a similar accusation against Germany, and asserts: "Germany seizes upon mendacious pretexts in order to commit new barbarities". And this from the President of a republic that has already brought 200,000 negroes from Africa and uniformed them as soldiers to fight against the Germans! It is a long time since the saying was current: "La France marche à la tête de la civilisation".

The German soldier is not a mercenary, but a citizen in arms, who fulfils his duty toward his Fatherland. He is a man of upright instincts and esprit de corps, good-hearted and with a strong sense of justice and fairness.

If the German soldiers were as they have been represented by the Belgian, French and English fanatics, if they were bands of robbers, ravishers and murderers, they would, in the far off enemy's country which they occupy to-day as they did 44 years ago, have constant and bitter battles with a folk driven to desperation, and, wherever they might have come with their lust for blood, they would have razed city and village to the ground.

As a matter of fact, however, the life and limb of the millions of people who are to-day under German rule in Belgian, French and Russian territory, are just as safe as

under their former governments, and a great part of these people are in many respects better off than before.

Following the victorious campaigns of the Germans, the hostile nations, the Belgians in Belgium, the French in Northern and Eastern France, and the Russians in Western Russia, have had an opportunity to make the acquaintance of the German soldiers at first hand. These people will be astounded and indignant over the renewed slanders of conscienceless defamers.

Despite this, Pierre Loti, a former French naval officer, had the effrontery to write to the Turkish war minister at the beginning of September:

"*The Germans are committing in Belgium and in France, and upon the orders of their leaders, the same atrocities that the Bulgarians committed in your country.* If we should, against our expectations, be defeated for a time, Prussia and its dynasty of wild beasts would none the less be pilloried in the history of mankind for all time. O, if you knew the *boundless loathing* that manifests itself in the whole world against the Prussian race!"

Well roared, lion! And behind these Frenchmen stand the Turkos and the African negroes, their celebrated allies and heroes in their battle against the Germans. One of these Turkos was among those wounded at Dinard. According to the London "Daily Express" of September 9th, he had the head of a German soldier in his knapsack. He was half wild when it was taken away from him. He considered this head the most valuable souvenir in the world, and he had to be consoled with a gift of money!

A diplomat, the English minister at the Hague, made common cause with these slanderers of German honor

in the middle of September by making the assertion that the German troops were completely demoralized and were plundering all the French villages.

Another Englishman, Lord Curzon, the former viceroy of India, expressed the hope that the Bengalese cavalrymen and the dark skinned Gurkhas migth eventually make themselves at home in Berlin and Potsdam. The pride of race of the Englishmen of to-day appears to be confined to trade, money and sport. They conduct their wars mainly by means of brown, yellow and black mercenaries.

When the Belgians read what plundering, destruction and cruelties the Russians and French have committed in the abandoned portions of their own countries, they cannot help saying: Better the German soldiers as enemies than the French and Russian soldiers as friends!

A French proclamation of August 26th, signed "Dubail", reads literally:

"The municipal officials of Rambervillers have brought to the knowledge of the commander-in-chief of the first army the fact that soldiers have permitted themselves to commit acts of violence and to plunder in that city. These occurrences are the more to be regretted and reprehended in that they were committed on French territory."

French soldiers, who ravish and loot on French territory! What a spectacle!

How different it was with the German troops in France! State Councillor Gouber of Rouen, who, in his official capacity, travelled through Northern France and the territory of the Pas de Calais, declared to the Paris "Temps" of

September 6th *that such acts of the Germans as were reported from Belgium had not been repeated in Northern France.* No buildings were set on fire, and all requisitions for meat, bread, &c., were paid for in cash. During the absence of a dealer in bicycles, the Germans would not take three bicycles which they needed until they had hunted up the mayor and handed him a receipt for them. *The Germans only dealt severely when they found houses whose owners had abandoned them, for they hunted all over for food and only became angry when this was denied them or concealed from them.* Concerning the extended territory of Northern France, Monsieur Gouber testifies that he is obliged to admit that in this whole district, through which he travelled, *he heard no complaints against the Germans from the inhabitants.*

Nevertheless the German troops had many a disagreeable experience in France, too. Major General von L., commander of a cavalry brigade, submitted to the chemists of the ambulance corps of his army corps on September 5th a portion of a cup of coffee. After drinking part of the cup, he had become immediately ill, with indications of poisoning. He had received the coffee in a French village near Lunéville. *Analysis showed that it contained enough arsenic to kill a man.* Major General von L. has since fully recovered.

Despite all this, the English minister at The Hague, misusing his diplomatic immunity, dared to report to the Dutch press on September 12th that the German troops

were completely demoralized. He declared that they were plundering all the French villages that they visited and drinking to excess. He who befouls the honor of another befouls himself.

The German soldier does not hate nor feel contempt for his enemies. He spares them and honors them when they deserve consideration and honor, but not otherwise.

In times of war the laws of warfare rule. They should, however, not only punish, but also act as a deterrent. These rules are invoked when inhabitants of municipalities and peasants carry on a guerilla warfare by shooting on troops from ambush, from houses and forests, and thus make themselves guilty of murder. In such cases the employment of the rules of warfare is demanded by the instinct of self-preservation and by the law of nations. The leaders of the German army will not cease to act according to these laws.

MISREPRESENTATIONS AND CALUMNIES.

THE Germans are compelled to fight not only with their arms, but also with their pens against the dishonesty, against the network of misrepresentations and calumnies in which their enemies have tried to entangle the half of Europe and all the rest of the world, and they must keep on until this network be ripped open by the force of facts.

Misrepresentations and calumnies cannot last. They are, however, like snow-balls, which become bigger and bigger the longer they are rolled. And they exert a powerful influence at critical times, even though it be but for days or weeks.

By means of misrepresentations and calumnies against the Germans it was attempted by English, French, Russians, Belgians, and others to create as strong a war feeling as possible among their own people, to revive their waning hopes of victory, to animate their troops to make new exertions and greater sacrifices, and to stir up hate and loathing for the Germans, to represent them as barbarians and Huns, and to charge them falsely with all sorts of cruelties.

The misrepresentations and calumnies of the English, French, Russians, Belgians and others were manufactured chiefly for the neutral countries. False news was systematically disseminated; and Italy, Holland, Denmark, Nor-

way, Sweden, Spain, Rumania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, the American states, South Africa, and East Asia were absolutely flooded with false cable news. This news, which was sent out chiefly by Reuter's Agency, London, accused Germany, the military nation, of being the real instigator of the war, as being alone responsible for it, and at the same time Germany's position was represented as desperate. There were uprisings of the Social Democrats in Berlin, of the Poles at Posen, and of the Alsace-Lorrainers at Strassburg, Mühlhausen and Metz. Germany's defeat was represented as inevitable. Huge Russian armies were victoriously marching upon Berlin. The French had crossed the Rhine. Atrocities and other gross breaches of the laws of nations and of neutrality by the Germans were reported. We were branded as an inferior, degenerate nation, and the attempt was made to incite the governments and the public opinion of the neutral countries to abandon their neutrality and take part, directly or indirectly, in overcoming the nation which is a common danger to all.

Germany was to be completely isolated and was to be regarded and treated by the whole civilized world as an enemy.

That was the purpose of the "campaign of lies" against Germany referred to by the Chancellor of the Empire in his communication of September 2nd to the American press; the anti-German newspapers were influenced only to a secondary degree by their mere love of sensation.

For a time it seemed as if that purpose would here and there be accomplished. In the chief cities of several neutral states the restless populace was incited to make demonstrations against Germany. The governments of some of the neutral states began to waver, and Germany's position would have become dangerous if it had really suffered defeats and had to reckon with the hostility of all nations.

But at this point the German army came to our assistance with its deeds. The falsifiers and calumniators were strong in weak words, but weak in strong deeds. Gradually but surely the German victories caused the truth to prevail. In spite of diplomatic pressure, especially on the part of England, the neutral governments declared with increasing emphasis that they would not deviate from strict neutrality.

So far as over-sea countries are concerned, the English had at hand the means suitable for their purpose in the form of a world-monopoly of cables, through which they controlled the news-service beyond all the seas. Contrary to the laws of nations they cut the German cable on the high seas, and they violated the rights of neutral states by controlling and suppressing all cable news unfavorable to themselves. The English misused their cable monopoly to disseminate monstrous misrepresentations and slanders against Germany, also to place intolerable restrictions upon the cable service in their own interests and at the cost of the neutral countries, and finally—just as during

the Boer War—to take an unfair advantage of the commercial cable news which came first into their hands, and that to the loss of competing neutral countries, especially the United States. The American people should take the precaution of laying a cable of their own to the European Continent, in order to forestall in future such breaches of law by the English.

For weeks the neutral European and over-sea countries were fooled with news about French, Russian, and English victories.

In view of our experience hitherto we may predict that when editors of foreign newspaper come later to compare their daily news reports of the first weeks of the war with the actual occurrences as testified to by authentic history, they will be astonished and indignant at all the inventions which the anti-German powers put on the cables to mislead the whole world. A few pieces of news—true, by way of exception—were amusing, as, for example, the French President's bestowal of the French military medal upon the Belgian King and of the cross of the Legion of Honor upon the brave city of Liège because it had victoriously resisted the attack of the Germans! Or the congratulatory dispatches of the King of England and the Czar to the Belgian King upon the "Victory of Liège"! The joy over such "German defeats" was just as brief as the honors conferred for such "Belgian and French victories".

Other lies were of a more serious kind and of more dangerous influence,—such as traduced Germany's policy

and the German character. Such defamation was designed to disturb old friendships and transform them into bitter estrangement; such defamation was also able to accomplish this hostile purpose wherever foreign poeple did not say daily to themselves: "It is an enemy that reports such things against Germany; let us be wise and suspend our judgment till we know actual results, till we know what is certainly true."

A few of those untruths as examples here.

The former French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gabriel Hanotaux, made the following assertion in the Paris "Figaro":

Emperor William is a prisoner and the victim of the war party, headed by his own son, which is attempting to deprive the Kaiser of his throne.

At the middle of August the "Cologne Gazette" made the following collection of telegraphic dispatches from Dutch, Belgian, French and English sources:

Germany sends an ultimatum to Italy, demanding that it meet its obligations as an ally, otherwise it might expect a declaration of war.

Garros, the well-known aviator, sees a German Zeppelin near Toul, hurls himself upon it; the Zeppelin explodes, its crew is killed, and Garros too.

Near Liège a Belgian aviator threw himself upon a German flier; the latter was cut in two, and the Belgian continued his flight.

Every day three or four German war ships are blown up—today on the Doggerbank, then at Corfu, tomorrow in the Atlantic Ocean, then in the Mediterranean, or on the Dutch coast. The "Breslau," "Goeben," "Panther," and others have been sunk.

Bavaria protests against the war (official). August 8.

Every day the Germans are shooting Alsatians or Lorrainers.

Upon the rumor that the French were crossing the frontier the Alsatians pulled up the boundary marks and had themselves enrolled in the French army; they acclaim their liberation with joy; numerous Alsatians are deserting daily to the French.

The Germans wear English uniforms to deceive the enemy.

The Germans misuse the white flag to shoot down the enemy.

One Prussian regiment was wholly annihilated, with the exception of three officers.

A squadron of French cavalry has reached the Rhine.

The Germans are retreating to Breisach, after having burnt their depots of supplies. Germany lost here 30,000 dead and 150 guns. The population greets the French as liberators.

The Italian ship "Puglia" has disarmed 29 Austro-Hungarian war vessels.

The "Echo de Paris" announces under date of August 9th that two German war ships were blown up in the North Sea by the French.

Saxon prisoners declare that Saxony went into the war against its will and only because it was compelled to do so (Reuter, Aug. 9).

The following news was also printed up to the middle of August:

Serious social democratic disturbances at Berlin (Reuter from Brussels).

The German troops used Alsatian women and children as a vanguard (Brussels dispatch to Dutch newspapers).

Dr. Liebknecht, member of the Reichstag, was shot because he refused to discharge his duties as a reserve officer; Rosa Luxemburg shot because she tried to persuade recruits to desert; other social democrats also shot because they refused to serve in the war. (Paris and London dispatches to Scandinavian and Italian papers.)

Albert de Mun, member of the French Academy, added the following supplement to the above:

Europe knows now—for the gates of Berlin are not so well watched as to prevent this rumor getting abroad—that the German army was at first compelled to shoot down reserves in the streets of the capital because they refused to go to war.

On August 10th a French official—namely, the Ambassador at Constantinople—placarded the following announcement: "Metz has fallen into French hands."

London press dispatches of August 14th: Near Belfort there are 1,000,000 French, numbers of whom have crossed the Swiss frontier and occupied Basle. The Russian mobilization is about finished and on August 16th 2,000,000 Russians will be read y to march against Germany and Austro-Hungary. Six Austrian cavalry regiments were annihilated in Bessarabia. Over 600,000 Russians are on the Russo-Turkish frontier south of the Caucasus.

England systematically misused its ambassadors, envoys, and consuls by requiring them to disseminate anti-German misrepresentations and calumnies in neutral states.

When the Paris "Matin," in 1913, was collecting a large sum to assist the French air-fleet this anti-German sheet boasted that Berlin would be a heap of ruins twelve hours after a declaration of war.

The English navy was to accomplish equally great deeds. English admirals and newspapers had often enough given the assurance that the German navy would be destroyed by the English immediately after a declaration of war, and this was generally believed in foreign countries.

That assumption was false. But English news was soon coming in. On August 5th the "Panther" was sunk, and the "Goeben" and the "Breslau" were captured near Gibraltar. On August 7th "Goeben" and "Breslau" were suddenly sighted again in the Straits of Messina, where they were doomed to certain destruction. The English did not learn for many days that they finally escaped.

Finally, on August 8th, the great naval battle occurred. According to London newspapers it took place in the North Sea. Not less than twenty-two German ships were sunk. Four English ships were also lost, which seemed to make the story more credible. The German fleet was broken up. The British Consul General at Constantinople hastened to placard this great naval victory, and all the English ships in the harbor were flagged to their fullest.

Such victories were won by the British hegemony of the seas—on patient white paper!

Liège was captured on August 7th. On the following day the King Albert of Belgium issued a general order containing the following passage:

> Our comrades return to our lines after having defended like heroes the reinforced fortress of Liège. Attacked by a force four-fold stronger in numbers than themselves, they repulsed every attack. *Not a single one of the forts was captured.* Liège is still in our hands. Flags and many prisoners of war are the trophies of these days.

On the evening of August 7th the French Minister of War called special attention, in a note, to the resistance of Liège and said that the forts there were still holding out; that the Germans, who had on Thursday entered the city by passing between the forts, had withdrawn from it again on Friday, and the Belgian division which came to the assistance of the city not even had to go into action. This official note drew the conclusion that the resistance of the Belgians was seriously disturbing the German plan, which contemplated a rapid success, but which it was undertaken to carry out with only meagre supplies.

The Paris "Matin" added that General Emmich, having been defeated, asked for an armistice to bury the enormous number of dead, but in reality to get bread for his troops, who were without food and ammunition and had suffered quite enormous losses.

On August 10th this was asserted in the official Belgian news:

After five days of fighting, the German army has for the present *discontinued its attacks upon Liège. All the forts were still in the hands of the Belgians* this morning at eleven o'clock.

Four days after the capture of Liège the French Envoy at Berne announced officially that Liège had not yet been taken, and the German troops had been driven back.

After the fall of Liège the following was placarded in big letters on the streets of Brussels:

Revolution in Germany!
Italy and Switzerland declare war on Germany!
Great Battle at Liège!
60,000 Germans killed, 40,000 prisoners!
German army in full flight across frontier!
Belgian Army had only 300 killed!

The following dispatches were published at Copenhagen:

English and French troops had joined the Belgian army, had entered Liège, and had taken many prisoners, including a nephew of the German Emperor.

At Stockholm it was reported that the Germans had suffered severe defeat.

The newspapers of Holland contained the following: Only three officers survived from one Prussian regiment, the entire regiment was annihilated: Lieutenant Forstner, the hero of Zabern, told the inhabi-

tants (near Liège) that Germany was astonished at the enormous Belgian resistance, which it had not expected; this had completely changed Germany's whole plan of campaign; a Belgian Pathfinder sixteen years old made prisoners of three German soldiers, with their arms and horses, and brought them into Liège.

Again, the following was sent from Paris to Rome:

The Germans had been driven back behind the Moselle and were begging for an armistice; the French had passed Namur and were pressing forward with forced marches, while 500,000 English were falling upon the German flank. The "Tribuna" estimated the English re-inforcements at 100,000 men. Prince George, a nephew of the Kaiser, had fallen at the head of his regiment.

Other dispatches from Paris: Liège is becoming the grave of 150,000 Germans, who are breaking their heads against its walls. The Belgians had taken 3,000 prisoners, who were in a terrible condition; but for their good fortune of falling into captivity they would have literally starved to death, and they were happy at having found in Belgian prisons a refuge from Prussian starvation. Four German uhlan officers reached Namur in an automobile and said that they had deserted. A German non-commissioned officer and several soldiers had deserted and fled to Maastricht, where they said that they were afraid and did not want to go on with the army.

General von Emmich, in despair over his defeat, had committed suicide in a hospital!

The London "Daily News" discussed at length the "demoralizing effects" that these "defeats" must have upon the *esprit-de-corps* of the German troops; and it added that the plan of the German General Staff of penetrating France by way of Belgium had made shipwreck before Liège.

And as late as August 14th, a full week after the fall of Liège, wireless messages were sent from London into all the world that the forts of Liège were still intact, that the German advance had broken down, and that 3,600 Germans and many guns had been captured:

A leading editorial in the Brussels "Dernière Heure," printed three days after the fall of Liège and still glorifying the "victory of Liège" in the style of the Paris *boulevarde* press, reads now like a sorry mockery of what had really occurred:

It will for ever be the glory of Liège that she checked the first hordes. The first wave broke on her walls; they are sprinkled with blood from it, and this makes her all the more beautiful. The purple harmonizes well with her tragic beauty. If one could ask her she would reply: My garments were not red enough. Look at her, the city, erect, grand, with her resolute face, with her burning eyes, challenging countless armies! Her lips quiver convulsively. She calls: You cannot pass here! You shall not pass! Such was the sublime attitude of Sparta toward Xerxes,—you cannot pass! Feverish Europe lifts her eyes to her, all the world raises shouts of admiration. In this tragic moment she dominates the world—beautiful, wild, erect, in the attitude of glory! The cross of the Legion on Honor sparkles on her heaving breast; she has given it somewhat more of purple!

As late as August 14th the London newspapers reported nothing but French and Belgian victories. Seven German regiments were annihilated to the last man. In the vicinity of Nise forty women had barricaded themselves in an arms factory and had put to flight 2,000 German uhlans—with boiling water!

An amusing effect is produced by a Reuter dispatch of August 22nd, in which the occupation of Brussels by the Germans was treated in such a manner that the reader might suppose that it was only a passing visit:

One hussar and one uhlan regiment of the German army arrived on the morning of the 20th before the gates of Brussels. The mayor went out to meet them and hold a consultation. In the afternoon German officiers arrived in automobiles and drove to the City Hall.

Later they probably rode away again, for Reuter's Bureau did not announce that they stayed in Brussels.

As late as August 23rd, when all Belgium except Antwerp was in German hands, the London "Daily Telegraph" printed the following sensational news from Paris: "I hear from an excellently informed person that the Germans in Belgium are completely surrounded."

The losses of the Germans reached enormous figures. According to London newspapers the rear lines of the Germans had to set up ladders against the mountains of bodies so that they could cross to the other side of the street, and a second Waterloo was awaiting the German troops.

On the other hand, General von Stein, the German Quartermaster General, reported as follows:

French news has disturbed our people. It is reported that 20,000 Germans fell before Liège, and that the city is not yet in our possession; and these statements were intended to be clinched by the theatrical bestowal of the cross of the Legion of Honor upon the city of Liège. *Our people can rest assured that we shall neither conceal reverses, nor magnify our successes.* We shall tell the truth and have full confidence that our people will believe us rather than the enemy, who wants to present his situation to the world in the most favorable light possible. We must hold back our news, however, as long as there is danger of revealing our plans to the world. Now we are able to report about Liège without doing any harm. Everybody can form his own judgment upon the report, shouted by the French into the ears of the whole world, that our losses were 20,000 men. Four days ago we had only weak forces at Liège, for such bold undertakings must not be revealed beforehand through the assemblage of large masses of troops. That we nevertheless attained our end is due to our

excellent preparations, the valor of our troops, their energetic leadership, and the help of God. The courage of the enemy was broken, and his troops fought badly. The difficulties against us lay in the exceedingly unfavorable topography of the country, consisting of hills and woods, and in the treacherous participation of the entire population in the fighting, not even excluding women. The civilians fired upon our troops from ambush, from villages and forests,—even upon physicians treating the wounded, and upon the wounded themselves. There were hard and bitter fights, and whole villages had to be destroyed in order to break the resistance, before our brave troops penetrated the girdle of forts and took possession of the city. It is true that a part of the forts still held out, but they no longer fired. The Kaiser did not want to waste a drop of blood in storming them, as they no longer hindered the carrying out of our plans. We were able to await the arrival of heavy artillery to level the forts one after the other at our leisure, and without the sacrifice of a single life, in case their garrisons should not surrender sooner. But the conscientious commanders of the army did not dare to publish one word about all this until such strong forces had been brought up around Liège that no devil could wrest it from us again; and that is our situation there today. So far as can be judged at present, the Belgians had more men for the defense of the city than we had for storming it. Every expert can judge from this fact the greatness of our achievement; it is unique. If our people should again grow impatient for news, I beg them to remember Liège. The whole nation has with one accord grouped itself around its Kaiser to resist its innumerable foes, so that the military leaders are justified in assuming that no reports are expected from them which could make their plans prematurely known to the enemy and thus make vain their difficult task.

(Signed) VON STEIN,
Quartermaster General.

A further report of Quartermaster General VON STEIN contained the following about the capture of Liège:

The secret about Liège can now be revealed. We had received news that French officers and probably a few privates had been sent to Liège before the outbreak of hostilities to instruct the Belgian troops in conducting the defense of the fortress. There could be no objection to this before the war broke out; but after the war began this became a *breach of neutrality on the part of France and Belgium.* We had to act quickly. Regiments not yet mobilized were moved to the frontier and marched against Liège. *Six slender brigades, on a peace footing, with a little cavalry and artillery* (12,000 men in all) *captured Liège.* After this achievement they were mobilized there and received their own supplementary men as their first re-inforcements. Two further regiments, which had just completed their mobilization, moved up later. Our enemies fancied that we had 120,000 men at Liège, and that our army could not continue its advance owing to the difficulty of provisioning it. They were mistaken. That pause at Liège had a different cause. It was only then that we began to bring up our armies. Our enemies can rest assured that the German troops begin their advance well provisioned and equipped. The Kaiser kept his word,—not another drop of German blood was shed in taking the forts of Liège. The enemy did not know of our heavy siege guns and therefore felt secure in his forts, but even the weaker guns of our heavy artillery compelled the forts attacked by them to surrender after a brief bombardment. In this way the survivors of their garrisons saved their lives. But the forts against which our heaviest guns fired were converted in a very brief time into heaps of ruins, with their garrisons buried under them. The forts are now being cleared out and restored for defensive purposes. *The fortress of Liège is no longer to serve the plans of the enemy, but to become a supporting point for the German armies.*

The dissemination of false news has diminished under the hard blows of facts, but it has by no means ceased. The effort is still made to represent Germany, in spite of her victories, as being in an embarrassed and desperate position.

As recently as the middle of September, when Germany's victories over Russians, English and French could no longer be disputed, newspapers from Ghent and Antwerp—petty sheets with two pages of reading matter—were smuggled into Brussels and sold secretly at one franc, one of which contained the following:

As I learn, an English fleet succeeded yesterday evening in capturing the fortress of Cuxhaven. It is expected that the English troops will tomorrow march into Hamburg. In the east the Russian army is marching from one victory to another; Koenigsberg and Graudenz are in their hands, and 400,000 Russians are marching upon Berlin. Lemberg is in the hands of General Rusky, who captured 70,000 Austrians, 500 guns, and many flags.

The people of Brussels believed this stuff as late as the middle of September. Of course, they had been deceived from the start. The German ultimatum had been falsified by converting it into the following: *Germany demands of Belgium that it place its troops under German command to make a joint attack upon France!* This forgery was intended to excite the passions of the Belgians to fever heat, and it succeeded. The second offer of peace made by Germany after the fall of Liège was kept secret!

But enough of all this. History will have to decide.

Unfortunately the anti-German press of Europe is widely circulated; it embraces the greatest London, Paris and St. Petersburg newspapers, is supplemented by widely read North-Italian, Spanish, American, Belgian and Danish organs, and is held together by English, French and Russian money. Widely known politicians, writers,

financiers and others are in the service of this conglomeration; they are fighting with dishonest, base and poisoned weapons against Germany's rights, and are trying—at least on paper—to dispute Germany's victories.

About the beginning of September Americans, Danes, Swedes, Turks, Rumanians, Italians, Swiss, Greeks, Dutch and Norwegians met in Berlin and organized a committee for sending impartial reports to neutral foreign countries in order to "counteract the lying news spread abroad systematically and on the largest scale by hostile foreign countries."

For a considerable time after the German victories in August nearly the whole non-German civilized world believed the news about German defeats disseminated by the hostile press in all foreign countries served by the English cable system.

Up to the end of August the English-French-Belgian misrepresentations and calumnies controlled the public opinion of all America. On the streets of the chief cities the most astonishing inventions were announced by means of transparencies. The reports about Germany's greed of conquest and bloodthirstiness, about German atrocities and defeats, were generally believed because they remained uncontradicted; and there could be no contradiction since the English permitted no news favorable to Germany to get on the cables.

In England itself it was not permitted to print the official German war news, despite its classical succinctness

and objectivity. Even extracts of it found in Danish newspapers were prohibited.

The attempt has been made in England for years to awaken in the minds of the Americans the suspicion that Germany has designs upon Brazil or other American states. The revelations of a London newspaper about the plan of a German General Staff officer for the conquest of the United States are a characteristic example of the depths to which English hate can descend. This latest British attempt to cast suspicion upon us was ridiculed in the New York "Sun" of September 10th.

England, the instigator of the present war and its driving force, had the audacity to represent Germany as the real cause of it. And yet the Kaiser—as the Chancellor, von Bethmann Hollweg, pointed out in his communication of September 2nd to the American press—tried to the very last moment to preserve peace. His efforts, however, were necessarily in vain "because Russia was resolved to have war under any and all circumstances, and because England, which had encouraged for a decade the anti-German nationalism in France and Russia, *failed to seize the splendid opportunity offered to her of proving the love of peace which she had so often proclaimed.... England did not desire friendship with Germany....* Jealous of the development of Germany and feeling that it was being eclipsed in many lines of activity by German efficiency and German industry, England wanted to crush Germany by brute force, as it had formerly crushed Spain, Holland and France."

The unavoidable revulsion of public sentiment in the neutral states followed slowly under the impression made by the advance of the German armies in all directions, but only slowly and interrupted continually by misleading news reports. Thus a telegraphic dispatch from Rome under date of September 14th:

The glowing reports from Paris about great victories of the French on the Marne and the retreat of the German armies along the whole line have given fresh nourishment to the anti-German agitation, but this movement is limited to Rome and Genoa.

As in Italy, so also in Rumania were the organs of the *Entente* Powers busily at work stirring up the people against Germany and trying to influence the governments to abandon their neutrality. Certain Rumanian newspapers exceeded even their English, French and Belgian prototypes, with their oriental imagery and their burning hatred of Germany. Thus the "Dreptatoa," a Bucharest daily paper, printed on August 18th the following blood-curdler:

German Atrocities.

The savagery of the Teutonic race reveals itself in blood.

A person who has within the past few days returned from Germany informs us of a case of an absolutely monstrous and disgusting character. The German women of various cities have begun to wear necklaces that are made of the eyes of the French wounded, which have been cut out by the German soldiers.

The same person assures us that even German women behave in the same bestial manner as the German soldiers toward the French wounded, who were taken prisoners during the fighting between Metz and the Vosges Mountains.

One of the above-mentioned necklaces has been sent to Russia by way of Rumania.

Such stuff may be disbelieved by the educated classes; but it is calculated for the people, is believed by the masses, and does its work. With such means as this anti-German street-demonstrations against the neutral government are gotten up.

England is also fighting in Spain, just as in Rumania, with her money, resolved as it is to fight to the last penny. The Madrid newspapers—"Liberal," "Imperial," "Heraldo," and others—zealously employed their biggest head-lines to disseminate the Anglo-French misrepresentations and calumnies against a neutral government.

"La Lectura Dominical" of August 22nd described these papers in the following terms:

Whenever they come to speak of Germany they do so regularly in such expressions as if Germany were a Negro state in Central Africa. The officers of its army are nothing but ballet dancers, its soldiers the worst savages in the fullest sense of the word, the German cannon are organ pipes, German rifles are reeds, the German aeroplanes the merest sparrows, the airships soap-bubbles, Germany's powder sand, its bullets of cotton, its horses made of pasteboard, and its battleships and cruisers are paper boats.

With such descriptions the Spaniards too were to be mobilized against Germany.

Gradually, in the neutral states, the German reports are also printed along with the French and English ones, and they are finally found to be trustworthy. People found out, and will continue more and more to find out, these lies and inventions,—the making of which is, according to Æschylus, the ugliest of all diseases.

People were finally staggered even in Paris. According to the official reports the French armies had won great victories, but the Germans advanced further and further into France, till they reached the vicinity of Paris. It was only after the people there heard the thunder of hostile artillery, only after the seat of government had been removed from Paris to Bordeaux, that public confidence was shaken. Nothing more was believed. The revulsion took the form of unbridled panic—a terror without end.

COMMERCE AND TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN GERMANY AND U.S.A.

Germany's financial rise since 1870. Export and Import with the U.S.A. The present firm condition of German finance.

POLITICIANS and commercial men must base their plans upon facts as they are and not as they wish they were, otherwise they fail. France has closed its eyes not only to the great intellectual and moral assets of Germany but also to its commercial resources.

France has repeatedly declared that Germany could not effect a serious political opposition, because a war would result in the ruin of its commercial and financial strength. This we heard in the Morocco crisis, also in the Balkan wars. Germany's love of peace which was tested in the above-mentioned cases strengthened the French in their error. He however, who has taken the trouble to visit Germany and the Germans in their places of employment — and especially Americans in recent years have done this, however also many Englishmen, who in vain have protested against the war with Germany—he can testify to the astonishing commercial advancement, which Germany has made since its political union by BISMARCK.

A few facts and statistics may recall this to memory. The population of Germany has since 1870, immigrants

excluded, increased from 40 millions to 67 millions, round numbers. Incomes and wages in particular have approximately doubled during the last generation; savings-deposits have increased six-fold. Although, only a generation ago, commerce and trade employed only about $^2/_5$ of the population, now more than $^3/_5$ are engaged in this field of work, and Germany, as a result of its agricultural economy and increased intense farming, is to-day the third largest agricultural country of the world. In the coal and iron industries, Germany is second only to America. In one generation its coal production increased $2\,^1/_2$-fold, its raw iron production almost four-fold. During the same period of time the capital of the German banks increased four-fold and their reserve fund eight-fold. Characteristic of Germany is the fact that hand in hand with this active private initiative is a strong feeling for the great universal interests and for organic coöperation of private and state resources. This feeling explains the perfect working of our state activities, in particular our railways, 95% of which are owned by the government and which yield an essentially higher revenue than those in England or France; it explains further the willing acceptance of the great financial burdens which general insurance imposes upon those engaged in private enterprises and which to-day is proving a blessing to almost the entire laboring force of Germany, to an extent which has not yet been realized by any other country.

What economic value to the world has a nation which for more than forty years has concentrated all its energy in peaceful industry? Does anyone deny that Germany's great technical and commercial advancement has been a blessing for the development of the world? Has not the commercial progress in Germany had the effect of awaking new productive powers in all parts of the world and of adding new territories which engage in the exchange of goods with the civilized nations of the world? Since the founding of the new German Empire, German foreign trade has increased from $5\,^1/_2$ to approximately 20 billion marks. Germany has become the best customer of a great number of countries. Not only has the German consumption of provisions and luxuries increased in an unusual degree, also that of meat, tropical fruits, sugar, tobacco and colonial products, but above all else that of raw materials such as coal, iron, copper and other metals, cotton, petroleum, wood, skins, etc. Germany furnishes a market for articles of manufacture also, for American machinery, English wool, French luxury articles, etc. One is absolutely wrong in the belief, that the competition of German industry in the world market has been detrimental to other commercial nations. Legitimate competition increases the business of all concerned.

The United States of America has reaped especial profit from Germany's flourishing commercial condition. Germany purchases more from the U.S.A. than from

any other country of the world. Germany buys annually from the U.S.A. approximately $ 170,000,000 worth of cotton, $ 75,000,000 worth of copper, $ 60,000,000 worth of wheat, $ 40,000,000 animal fat, $ 20,000,000 mineral oil and the same amount of vegetable oil. In 1890 the import and export trade between Germany and the U.S. amounted to only $ 100,000,000, in 1913 to about $ 610,000,000. Germany to-day imports from the U.S. goods to the value of $ 430,000,000, while she exports to the U.S. nearly $ 180,000,000 worth. No nation therefore can judge as well as the U.S. what German commerce means to the world.

In what condition are the finances of Germany? In this field our opponents will be obliged to change their views. In 1912 Germany's national debt was about 14 marks per capita lower than England's. The public debt of France per capita was far more than double that of Germany. Germany, however, has large national assets which offset its liabilities. For example, the stocks of the Prussian railways alone exceed by far the aggregate amount of the Prussian debt, the income of the railways alone is essentially greater than the amount which the interest and amortisation of the entire state debt demand. The war, which according to the French conception, was destined to bring about the financial and commercial ruin of Germany, has brought forth the astonishing result, that the famous French money market was the first to fail in this crisis. As early as July 25th, before the rejection of the Austrian

Ultimatum by Servia had been made known, the offer of 3% redeemable French notes to the French exchange was so great that the Chambre Syndicale des Agents de Change in the interest of the public, prohibited the quotation of a lower rate than 78%, while bids of 74% had already been submitted. Sale in blank was absolutely forbidden and in the coulisse, business was at a standstill. A few days later, the July liquidation, in the official market as well as in the coulisse, was postponed until the end of August, which action proved the necessity of a period of grace. On July 31st the French savings-banks, at the command of the government, suspended daily payments and paid out sums to the amount of 50 francs, fourteen days notice being necessary. The London money market too has hardly stood the war test. On July 30th the Bank of England was obliged to raise its rate of discount from 3 to 4%, several days later to 8% and again after a few days to the incredible rate of 10%. In contrast to this, the President of the German Reichsbank was able, on the 1st of August to declare that the directorate, because of the strength of the Reichsbank and the solid constitution of the German money market, did not consider it necessary to follow England's example. The German Reichsbank has therefore not exceeded the rate of 6%. Worse yet was the fact that England on August 2nd was obliged to require grace on exchange and France on August 3rd, grace on its accounts-current and Lombard loans. Although along with England and France,

also Russia, Austria, Italy, Belgium and other nations required temporary credit, Germany to date has not deemed it necessary to ask for time in meeting its obligations. Savings-banks, other banks and financial institutions are meeting all demands without restriction. The fact, that the English money market which up to the present time has been considered the financial center of international trade, has failed, will bring many a serious thought to all commercial men interested in the world market.

German commerce has doubtless been temporarily injured by the war, but the esprit de corps and organization which animate the German nation are not only a firm foundation for German commerce, but also a strong support for the further development of the commerce and trade of the entire civilized world, if, as we hope, peace soon be reestablished.

WHO IS TO BE VICTORIOUS?

An appeal to American friends.

THE American citizen who is now leaving Europe, which has been turned into an enormous military camp, may consider himself fortunate that he will soon be able to set foot in the new world where he will be enabled again to take up his business pursuits. In the meantime old Europe is being torn asunder by a terrible war among its various peoples. It will make him happy again to greet mountain and valley, field and garden, which are not threatened, nor trampled down by armies or covered with blood; again to see cities in which business and traffic are not brought to a standstill by calling in all men capable of military service; and he may thank fortune that his people have been given room enough in which to expand and to permit them freely to unfold their power; that they are spared the great necessity of resisting the tightening ring of enemies in the east and west, on land and water, in a struggle for national existence.

But the American will feel the effects of the fate of the old world. Even though he knows his own country is not directly involved, he will certainly realize that the great net of international traffic and the progress of his

country are connected by many strong ties to the life and prosperity of European peoples. He will be affected by every victory and defeat, just as by the sun and rain in his own country. He will doubtless remember that of all European countries, Germany is the best customer of the United States, from which she purchases yearly over one billion marks in cotton, food, metal and technical products. If Germany is economically ruined, which is the wish of Russia, France and England and all allied friends of wretched Servia, it would mean the loss of a heavy buyer to America, and thereby cause a serious loss to America which could not easily be made good. It would be a great blow to American export trade, of which Germany handles not less than 14% yearly.

The material loss is not the only feature. In the economic struggle in the world markets, American and German commercial men have learned mutually to appreciate one another, to appreciate one another more highly than do any other two rivals. The time is long past when the American pictured the German as one of thousands, shut up in a room, surrounded by documents and parchments, speculating about the unknown outside world, and the same is true of the German's idea of the American —a money-hungry barbarian. Two nations in which so much kindred blood flows and which are connected by so many historical events understand each other better to-day than formerly. Above all, they have a mutual understanding regarding the ideal in commercial life: A

man engaged in work not for the sake of the profit, but for the sake of the work he is doing; one who gives all his strength to his task, and who works for the general welfare of the people as a whole, considering his position as an office and his wealth as an obligation, not as the final aim, but as a basis for the realization of higher attainments. He places the value of character and the development of the creative powers of man higher than all economic success. Two nations united by such common inclinations and ideals, boldness of enterprise, far-sightedness, quickness of decision, admiration for intellectual achievements, cannot help being exceedingly congenial to each other. What concerns one to-day, concerns the other.

Does it sound like a paradox when I say Germany's struggle concerns not only her own destiny, but to a considerable extent that of America? Does the United States consider itself entirely immune from the warlike complications brought about by the Servian murder of princes and Russia's breach of faith? In any event it will be difficult for it to say: "What's Hecuba to me?" One thing should be clearly understood on the shores of the five oceans, that the cause of this most terrible war does not emanate from the dark Balkans, or from a Russian military group, but from envy and hate which healthy, young and striving Germany has aroused in her older rivals; not because this or that demand was made by one cabinet and refused by another, but because it was believed there was finally an opportunity to destroy

the hated opponent who threatened to put the older Western European powers in the shade, and for this reason England and France put their strength into the service of criminal and brutal Servia. The following statistics will, perhaps, throw some light on the development of the foreign trade of the principal countries from 1870 to 1913: (—in billions of marks—).

	1870	1913
Great Britain	9,180	23,280
France	4,540	12,300
Russia	2,000	5,580
Germany	4,240	20,440

In these 43 years, which have been decisive in the development of international economy, England, France and Russia have not been able even to increase their foreign trade three times, *while Germany and the United States have increased theirs five times.* The trade of Germany and the United States has increased from 7.6 to 38 billion marks. If these figures show nothing else, they show on which side the American sympathy will be. This war, provoked by Russia because of an outrageous desire for revenge, supported by England and France, has no other motive than envy of Germany's position in economic life, and of her people, who are fighting for a place in the sun. "Right or wrong, Germany must not grow." That is the turning point of a policy which the French Republic drilled into the Muscovites. Let us consider the adversaries of Germany. Russia, the classic land of violence and terrible

exploitation of the people for the benefit of a degenerated aristocracy. France, a type of a nation in which there is not even enough enterprise to increase the productiveness of the country. England, which has so long felt its glory vanishing and in the meantime has remained far behind its younger rival in financial and economic equipment. One can easily imagine the feelings of these peoples when they observe the rapid and successful growth of Germany, and wonders if these same feelings will not one day be directed against the youthful North American giant. In this war it shall be decided which is the stronger: the organized inertia of the tired and envious, or the unfolding of power in the service of a strong and sacrificing life. To know that we have American friendship in this struggle will mean a great moral support for us in the coming trying days, for we know that the country of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln places itself only on the side of a just cause and one worthy of humanity's blessing.

DOCUMENTS.

THE *German White Book*, containing the telegrams exchanged between the Kaiser and the Czar and between the German and the Russian Government, giving in detail the course of events and negotiation that led up to the war, has been published in a separate edition. The following documents form a further contribution.

1. Testimony of the Belgian Minister in St. Petersburg.

Belgian Legation.
St. Petersburg.
795/402. July 30, 1914.
On the political situation.

To His Excellency M. DAVIGNON,
Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Secretary:

Yesterday and the day before yesterday have passed in the expectation of events that must inevitably follow *Austria-Hungary's declaration of war against Servia.* The most contradictory reports have been circulating, without its being possible to distinguish between the true and the false, concerning the intentions of the Imperial Russian Government. **Only one thing is uncontradicted, which is that Germany has made earnest efforts here and in Vienna to find**

some way of avoiding a general conflict. On the one side, however, it has met with the firm decision of the Vienna Cabinet not to yield a step, and on the other side with the mistrust of the St. Petersburg Cabinet against the assurance of Austria-Hungary, that it only intends to punish Servia, and not to take a part of her territory.

M. Sasonoff has said that it is impossible for Russia to avoid holding herself in readiness and not to mobilize, that these preparations, however, are not directed against Germany. This morning an official communication in the newspapers announced that the reserves in a certain number of governments have been called to the colors. Anyone who knows the custom of the official Russian communications to keep something in reserve, can safely maintain that a general mobilization is taking place.

The German Ambassador has this morning declared that he has reached the end of the efforts which since Saturday he has been making without interruption for a satisfactory arrangement, and that he has almost given up hope.

I have been told that the English Ambassador also has expressed himself in the same way. England has recently proposed arbitration. Sasonoff answered: "We have ourself proposed it to Austria-Hungary, but it has rejected the proposal." To the proposal of a conference, Germany answered with the counterproposal of an understanding between the Cabinets. One might truly ask oneself whether the whole world does not wish war and

only seeks to postpone for a while the declaration, in order to gain time.

England at first let it be understood that it would not allow itself to be drawn into a conflict. Sir George Buchanan said that quite openly. To-day in St. Petersburg one is firmly persuaded **that England will stand by the side of France, and even that the assurance of this has been given. This assistance is of quite extraordinary weight, and has not a little contributed to give the war party the upper hand.** The Russian Government has in these last days given free rein to all demonstrations friendly to Servia and hostile to Austria, and has in no wise attempted to suppress them. In the council of ministers, which took place yesterday morning, differences of opinion still showed themselves; the declaring of a mobilization was postponed, but since then a change has appeared, **the war party has attained the upper hand, and this morning at four o'clock the mobilization was ordered.**

The army, which feels itself strong, is full of enthusiasm, and bases great hopes on the extraordinary progress which it has made since the Japanese war. The navy is still so far from the completion of its plans of reorganization that it is scarcely to be taken into account. For this reason, **the assurance of English assistance is considered of such great importance.**

As I had the honor of telegraphing you to-day (T. 10) all hopes of a peaceable solution seem to have vanished; that is the view of the diplomatic corps.

I have made use of the route via Stockholm with the Nordisk Cable for sending my telegram, as it is safer than the other.

I am entrusting this report to a private courier, who will post it in Germany.

Please receive, Mr. Secretary, the assurance of my greatest respect

(Signed) B. DE l'ESCAILLE.

2. How the Franco-German conflict might have been avoided.

The following documents refer to the exchange of views between Germany and England immediately before the war broke out. It will be perceived from these documents that Germany was prepared to spare France in case England should remain neutral and would guarantee the neutrality of France.

Telegram of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Prussia to H. M. the King of England of July 30, 1914.

Am here since yesterday, have informed William of what you kindly told me at Buckingham Palace last Sunday who gratefully received your message.

William, much preoccupied, is trying his utmost to fulfill Nicholas's appeal to him to work for maintenance of peace and is in constant telegraphic communication with Nicholas, who today confirms news that military measures

have been ordered by him tantamount to mobilization, and that these measures were already taken five days ago.

We are furthermore informed that France is making military preparations, whereas we have taken no measures, but may be forced to do so any moment should our neighbors continue. This would then mean a European war.

If you really and earnestly wish to prevent this terrible disaster, may I suggest that you use your influence on France and also Russia to remain neutral. It seems to me that this would be most useful.

This I consider a certain, perhaps the only chance, to maintain the peace of Europe.

I may add that now more than ever Germany and England should lend each other mutual help to prevent a terrible catastrophe which otherwise seems unavoidable.

Believe me that William is most sincere in his endeavours to maintain peace, but that the military preparations of his two neighbors may at last force him to follow their example for the safety of his own country, which otherwise would remain defenceless.

I have informed William of my telegram to you and hope you will receive my information in the same spirit of friendship in which I gave it.

(Signed) Henry.

Telegram of H. M. the King of England to Prince Henry of Prussia of July 30, 1914.

Thanks for your telegram. Am very glad to hear of William's effort to join with Nicholas to maintain peace. Indeed,

I am earnestly desirous that such an irreparable disaster as a European war should be averted. My Government is doing its utmost to induce Russia and France to suspend further military preparations if Austria will consent to be satisfied with the occupation of Belgrade and neighboring Servian territory as a hostage for satisfactory settlement of her demands, other countries meanwhile suspending their war preparations. I trust William will use his great influence to induce Austria to accept this proposal thus proving that Germany and England are working together to prevent what would be an international catastrophe. Pray assure William I am doing and shall continue to do all that lies in my power to preserve the peace of Europe.

(Signed) GEORGE.

Telegram of His Majesty the Emperor to H. M. the King of England of July 31, 1914.

Many thanks for kind telegram. Your proposals coincide with my ideas and with the statements I got tonight from Vienna and which I have had forwarded to London. I just received news from chancellor that official notification has just reached him that Nicholas tonight has ordered the mobilization of his whole army and navy. He has not even awaited the results of the mediation I am working at and left me without any news. I am off for Berlin to take measures for ensuring safety of my eastern frontiers, where strong Russian troops are already posted.

(Signed) WILLIAM.

Telegram of the King of England to His Majesty the Emperor of August 1, 1914.

Many thanks for your telegram last night. I sent an urgent telegram to Nicholas expressing my readiness to do everything in my power to assist in reopening conversations between powers concerned.

(Signed) George.

Telegram of the German Ambassador in London to the Chancellor of August 1, 1914.

Sir E. Grey just asked me by telephone whether I believed that I could declare that we would not attack France in a war between Germany and Russia in case France should remain neutral. I declared I believed I could give such an undertaking.

(Signed) Lichnowsky.

Telegram of His Majesty the Emperor to H. M. the King of England of August 1, 1914.

I just received the communication from your Government in which Great Britain guarantees the neutrality of France. Added to this offer was the enquiry whether under these conditions Germany would refrain from attacking France. On technical grounds my mobilization, which had already been proclaimed this afternoon, must proceed against two fronts east and west as prepared; this cannot be countermanded because your telegram unfortunately came too late. *But if France offers me neutrality, which must be guaranteed by the British army and navy, I shall of course re-*

frain from attacking France and employ my troops elsewhere. I hope that France will not become nervous. *The troops on my frontier are now in the act of being stopped by telegraph and telephone from crossing into France.*

Telegram of the Chancellor to the German Ambassador in London of August 1, 1914.

Germany is ready to accept British proposal in case England guarantees with all her forces absolute neutrality of France in Russo-German conflict. German mobilization has been ordered to-day on account of Russian challenge before English proposal was known here. It is therefore now impossible to make any change in strategical distribution of troops ordered to the French frontier. *But we guarantee that our troops will not cross the French frontier before 7 p. m. on Monday the 3rd inst. in case England's proposal be received by that time.*

(Signed) Bethmann Hollweg.

Telegram of H. M. the King of England to His Majesty the Emperor of August 1, 1914.

In answer to your telegram just received, I think there must be some misunderstanding as to a suggestion that passed in friendly conversation between Prince Lichnowsky and Sir Edward Grey this afternoon when they were discussing how actual fighting between German and French armies might be avoided as long as there is a chance of some agreement between Austria and Russia. Sir Edward

Grey will arrange to see Prince Lichnowsky early to-morrow morning to ascertain whether there is a misunderstanding on his part.

(Signed) George.

Telegram of the German Ambassador in London to the Chancellor of August 2, 1914.

Sir E. Grey's suggestions were prompted by a desire to make it possible for England to keep permanent neutrality, but *as they were not based on a previous understanding with France* and made without knowledge of our mobilization, *they have been abandoned as absolutely hopeless.*

(Signed) Lichnowsky.

The essence of Germany's declarations is contained in Emperor William's telegram to the King of England of August 1, 1914. Even if there existed a misunderstanding as to an English proposal, the Kaiser's offer furnished England the opportunity to prove her pacific disposition and to prevent the Franco-German war.

3. Text of the Telegraphic Instructions to the German Minister in Brussels, dated August 2, 1914.

The Imperial Government is in possession of **trustworthy information concerning the intended forward movement of the French forces along the Meuse, on the route**

Givet-Namur. It permits of no doubt that the French intend to advance against Germany through Belgium territory. The Imperial Government cannot free itself from the apprehension that Belgium with the best will would not be able, without assistance, to ward off a French approach with so great a likelihood of success as to furnish a sufficient guarantee against the threatened danger to Germany. It is a requirement of self-preservation for Germany to anticipate the hostile attack. It would fill Germany with the greatest regret, therefore, if Belgium should regard it as an act of hostility toward herself that the plans of her adversaries compel Germany in its own defense to enter also upon Belgian territory. In order to exclude every misconception, the Imperial Government makes the following declaration:

1. **Germany has in view no acts of hostility against Belgium.** If Belgium in the war that has begun is willing to take a position of friendly neutrality towards Germany, the German Government pledges itself on the conclusion of peace, to guaranty the territorial integrity and independence of the kingdom to the fullest extent.

2. Germany pledges itself under the above condition **to withdraw from the kingdom as soon as peace is concluded.**

3. If Belgium maintains a friendly attitude, Germany is prepared, in agreement with the royal Belgian authorities, **to purchase for cash all necessaries required by its troops, and to make good any possible damage that might be caused by the German troops.**

If Belgium should hostilely oppose the German troops, especially their advance, through a resistance offered by the fortifications on the Meuse, or make difficulty for them by the destruction of railways, roads, tunnels or other works, Germany would to its regret be compelled to regard the kingdom as an enemy. In this case Germany would not be able to assume any responsibility towards the kingdom, but would be obliged to leave the adjustment of the relations between the two states to the arbitrament of war.

4. The German Emperor to President Wilson.

I regard it my duty, Mr. President, to inform you, who are the most prominent representative of the fundamental principles of humanity, that after the capture of the French fortress Longwy, my troops discovered there thousands of dum-dum cartridges, which were made at a special government workshop. The same kind of cartridges were found on dead and wounded soldiers and on prisoners, also on British troops. You know what terrible wounds and suffering these bullets cause, and that their use is strongly forbidden by the recognized principles of international law. I address to you therefore a solemn protest against this manner of conducting the war which, thanks to the methods of our adversaries, has become one of the most barbaric known to history. Not only have they used

these inhuman weapons, but the Belgian government has openly encouraged the participation of the Belgian civil population in the conflict, and prepared for this a long time in advance. The cruelties perpetrated even by women and clergyman in this guerilla warfare on wounded soldiers, medical men and nurses (surgeons were killed and hospitals shot at) were of such a kind, that my generals were finally compelled to use the sharpest means in order to punish the guilty and to terrify the blood-thirsty population from continuing their infamous acts. Some villages, and even the old city of Louvain, with exception of the beautiful city hall, had to be destroyed in self-defence and for the protection of my troops. My heart bleeds when I see that such measures have become unavoidable, and when I think of the countless innocent people who have lost their homes and property in consequence of the barbaric conduct of those criminals.

William I. R.

5. The Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg to the representatives of the "Associated Press" and the "United Press" in New York.

I do not know what one in America may think of the present war, but I suppose that by this time the exchange of telegrams between the German Emperor and the Czar on the one hand, and the Czar and the King of England

on the other, have been communicated to the American public. This exchange of telegrams furnishes to history the irresistible proof that the German Emperor up to the last moment took the greatest possible pains to preserve peace. All his efforts however had to remain unsuccesful, because Russia was determined on war at any price, and England, which for decades had continued to stir up in Russia and France a sentiment hostile to Germany, let this splendid opportunity go by to confirm its love of peace, for which it has been so often praised; otherwise the war, at least between Germany and England, could have been avoided. If some day the secret documents shall be made accessible to the public, **the whole world will learn how often Germany has extended to England the hand of friendship,** which England has always repelled. Jealous of the development of Germany, and terrified by the conviction that in very many domains it would be surpassed by German industrial efforts, England has desired brutally to overthrow Germany, as it formerly overthrew Spain, Holland and France. It believed that the moment for this had now come and gladly seized the opportunity which the march of German troops into Belgium offered, to take part in the war. Germany was itself compelled to enter Belgium, because it had to anticipate the entrance of French troops into that country which had been planned by France, and Belgium only waited for the entrance of the French in order to unite itself with

them. That England has only made use of a pretext is proved also by the fact that Sir Edward Grey already on the afternoon of August 2nd, i. e., before the violation of Belgium's neutrality by Germany, had promised the French Ambassador the unconditional help of England, in case the German fleet should attack the French coast.

English politics shrinks from nothing; and so it came that the English people, who have continually presented themselves as the champions of freedom and of right, can fight in alliance with Russia, that is to say, with the representative of the most terrible absolutism, with the land which admits of no religious and intellectual freedom and treads under foot the liberty of the people and the individual.

England begins already to see that its calculation, so far as Germany is concerned, has been false. On this ground it seeks now with the most contemptible means to injure Germany as much as possible in its trade and colonies. For this reason it has urged Japan to make a sudden attack against Kiautschou and has led the African negroes to fight against the German colonies, without considering the consequences of this for the general civilization of the white race, and has opened against us a campaign of lies after it had interrupted the telegraphic communications of Germany with the whole world. It will also endeavor in this way to persuade your countrymen as well that the German troops have burned and plundered

Belgian cities and villages, but will prudently keep silent the facts that Belgian young girls have put out the eyes of helpless wounded German soldiers on the battlefield, that officials of Belgian cities have invited our officers to dine and have assassinated them as they ate. Contrary to international law, the whole Belgian civil population has been called to arms. After offering our troops a friendly reception, they fell upon them from behind in the most cruel way. Belgian women cut the throats of German soldiers while they were asleep. England will also say nothing of the dum-dum cartridges which, as is proved by the contents of the original packages found on the French and English prisoners, were used by the English and French.

His Majesty has permitted me to communicate all this to you and to declare to you that he places the fullest confidence in the feelings and the fairness of the American people, who will not let themselves be deceived by the compaign of lies of our enemies. Everyone who has been staying in Germany since the outbreak of the war has had to admire the high moral plane of the Germans who, threatened from all sides, enter upon the war to preserve their existence, and he knows that this people is incapable of practicing unnecessary cruelties.

Thanks to the splendid moral spirit of our troops we shall conquer, and the vilest lies will be as little able to prevent our victory as to cloud the goodness of our cause.

6. The Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg to Ritzau's Bureau, Kopenhagen.

September 13th.

In his Guildhall speech, the English Prime Minister has claimed the right of protecting the smaller and weaker states against Germany. He has spoken of the neutrality of Belgium which has been violated by Germany, and of that of Holland and Switzerland which she may ultimately endanger. It is true, we have violated the neutrality of Belgium, because bitter necessity forced us to do so. But we had promised Belgium to preserve the integrity of her territory and to grant her full indemnification, if she was willing to take into account the necessities of our position. In this case, we would have damaged Belgium just as little as we did, for instance, Luxemburg. If England as a protector of the weaker states had wanted to save Belgium from endless distress, it should have advised Belgium to accept our offer. As far as we know, England has not "protected" Belgium at all. Is England indeed such an unselfish protector? We know for certain that the French plan of war provided for a march through Belgium, in order to fall upon the unprotected Rhine country. Is there anybody who believes that if this had been done, England would have interfered for the sake of protecting Belgium against France? We have respected strictly the neutrality of Holland and Switzerland and we have very

scrupulously avoided even the smallest encroachment upon Dutch Limburg. It is surprising that Mr. Asquith only mentions Belgium, Holland and Switzerland and not the Scandinavian countries. It is possible that he has spoken of Switzerland in thinking of France. Holland and Belgium lie opposite England on the other side of the Channel, and it is on this account that England is so anxious about the "neutrality" of these countries. Why does Mr. Asquith keep silence about the Scandinavian countries? Is it perhaps because he knows that we do not think of infringing the neutrality of these countries? Or can it be because England, having in view a possible pushing forward into the Baltic or out of regard to the war plans of Russia, does not think of Danish neutrality as a *noli me tangere?* Mr. Asquith wishes it to be believed that England is fighting against us the battle of freedom against absolutism. The world has got accustomed to this mode of expression. In the name of freedom England has, by the use of brute force and with the most ruthless egoism, built up its great colonial empire. In the name of freedom it destroyed the independence of the Boer republic. In the name of freedom it treats Egypt as an English colony, in violation of international treaties and of its solemn promise. In the name of freedom one after another of the Malay protectorate states loses its independence in favor of England. In the name of freedom it seeks, by cutting the German cable, to prevent the world from learning the truth concerning the war. The

English premier is mistaken. When England joined with Russia and Japan against Germany it betrayed, through an insensate infatuation that stands alone in the history of the world, the cause of civilization, and handed over to the German sword the maintenance of the freedom of Europe.

(Signed) Bethmann Hollweg.

The War Illustrated, 12th September, 1914. Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper.

MASTERLY DESCRIPTION OF THE BATTLE OF MONS. See Page 74

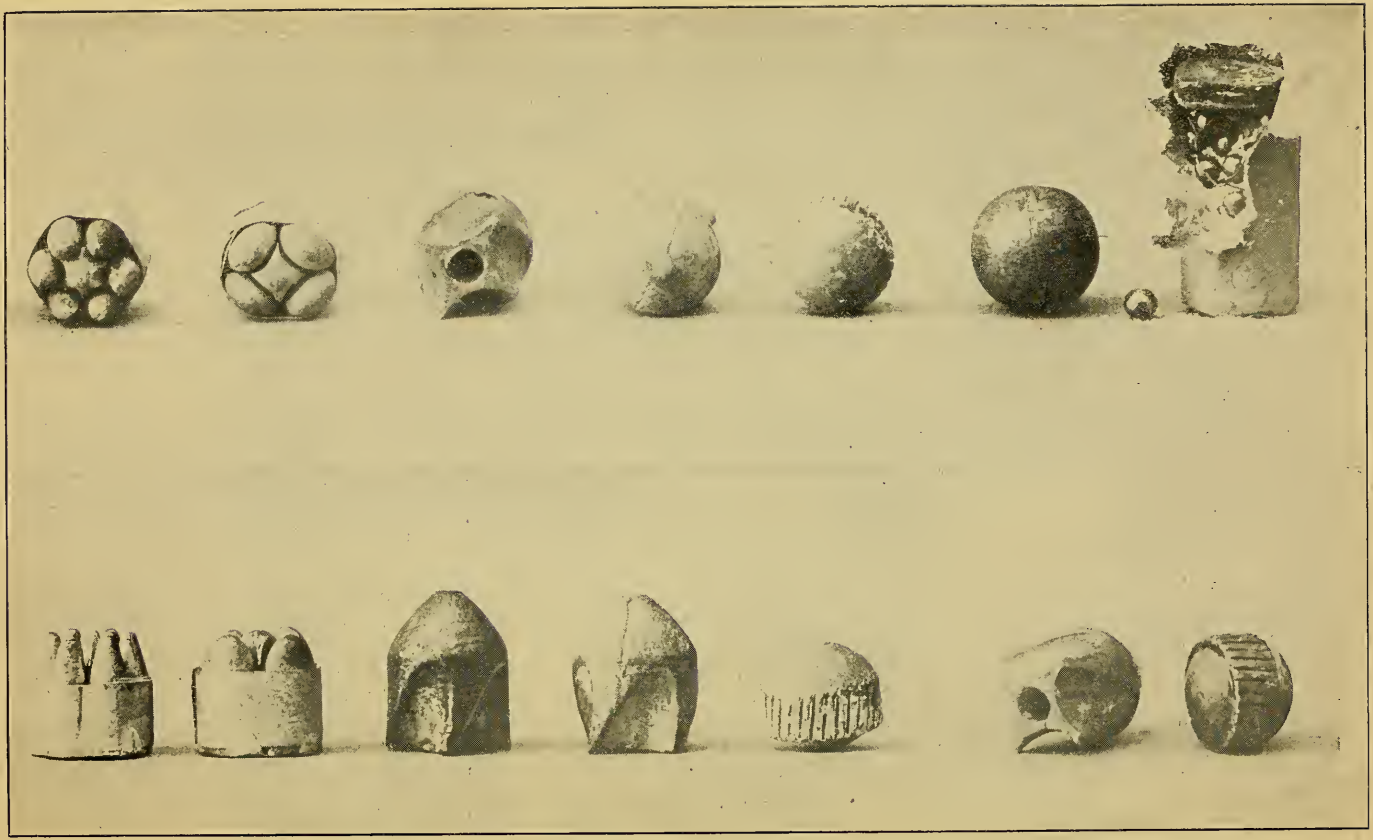
The War Illustrated 2d Weekly

VOL. I., No. 4.

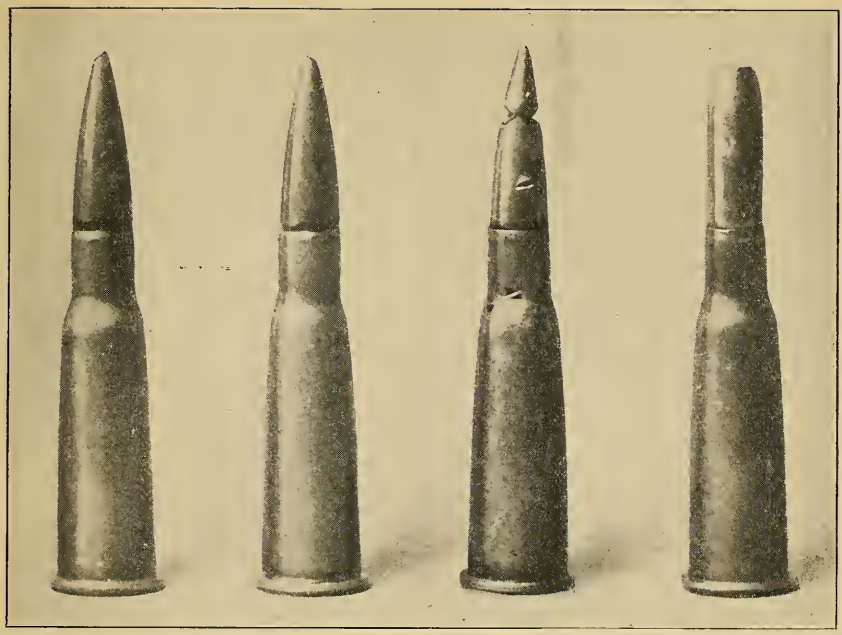
Latest German Invention—The Red Cross Machine-Gun!

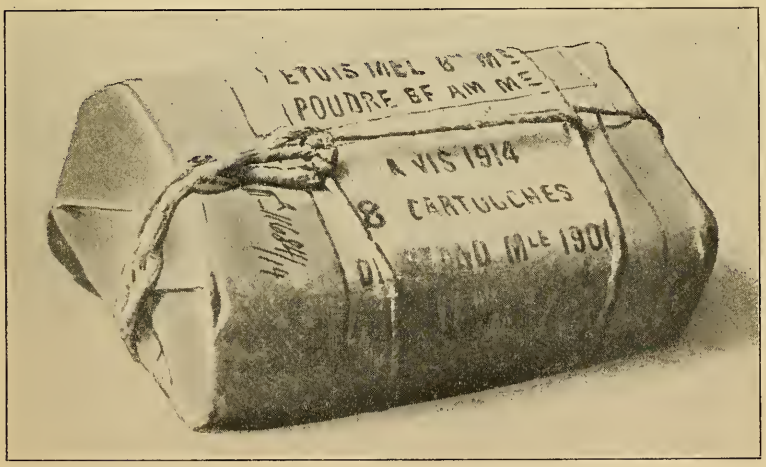
Week ending 12 Sept., 1914

A malicous and false English cartoon, designed to inflame the unthinking masses against Germany. The forgery is a bungling one. The uniforms exhibit a chain lipstrap, which is not worn by German soldiers, and the cartridges in the belt are shown with the bullets pointing toward the rear.

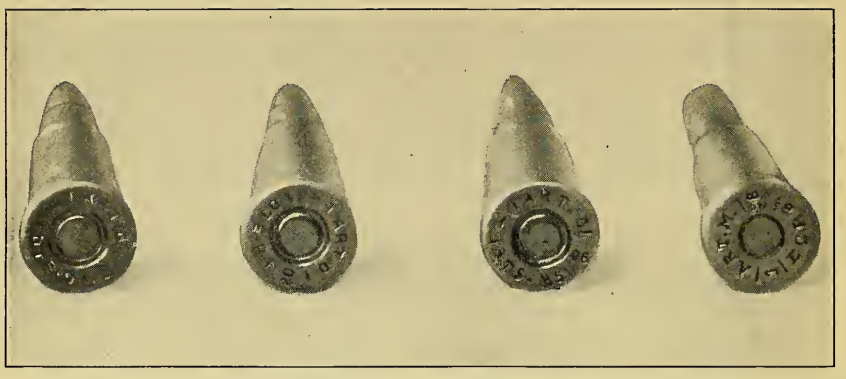


Cruel projectiles, irregularly shaped leaden slugs, pointed bullets, deer-gun cartridges, etc., found on Belgian and French franc-tireurs.

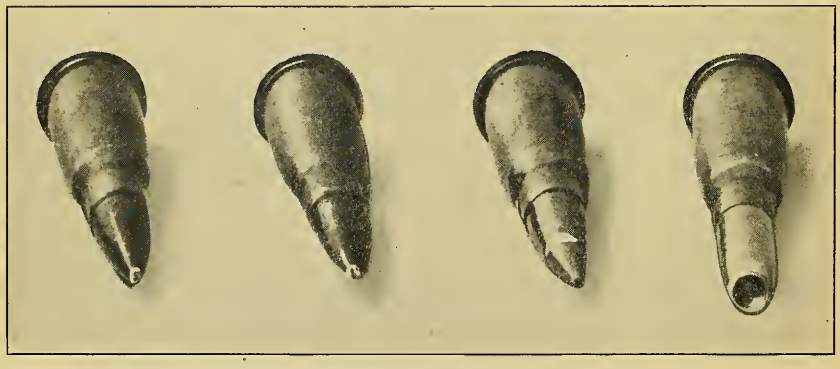




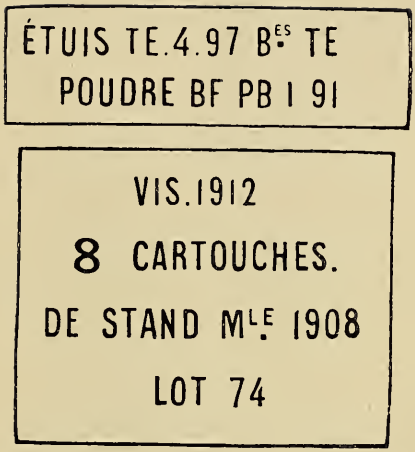
Dumdum projectiles, single and in packages, as taken from prisoners and dead soldiers on the battlefield.



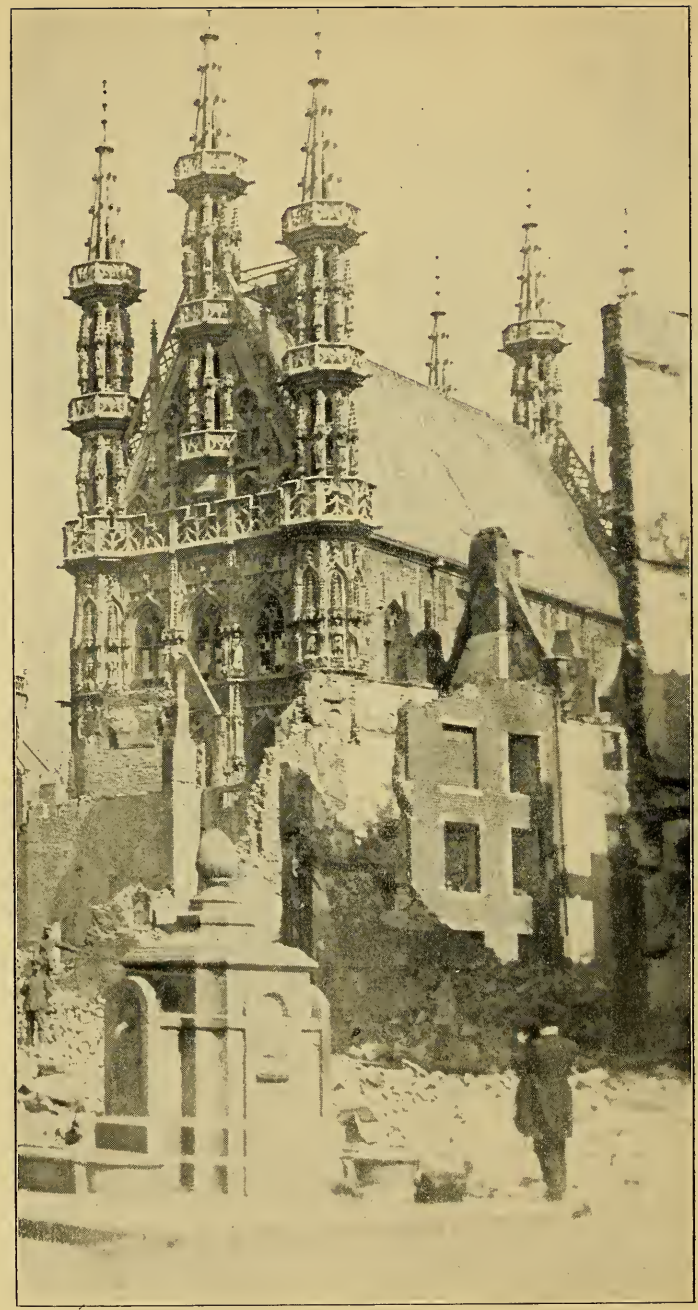
Dumdum cartridges bearing the stamp of the French military department.



Dumdum cartridges—front view.
The projectile at the right, with its hollowed point, is a particularly terrible one. The machine for boring these holes was found in Longwy.



Inscription on the packages of dumdum projectiles found in Longwy.



The *undestroyed* Rathaus at Louvain as it appears to-day.

Fort Loucin after its Destruction.

The terrible effect of the shells of our 42-centimeter mortar is plainly visible in this picture. An idea of the extent of the destruction may be gained by comparing the stature of the man in the middle background with the other details of the picture.

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